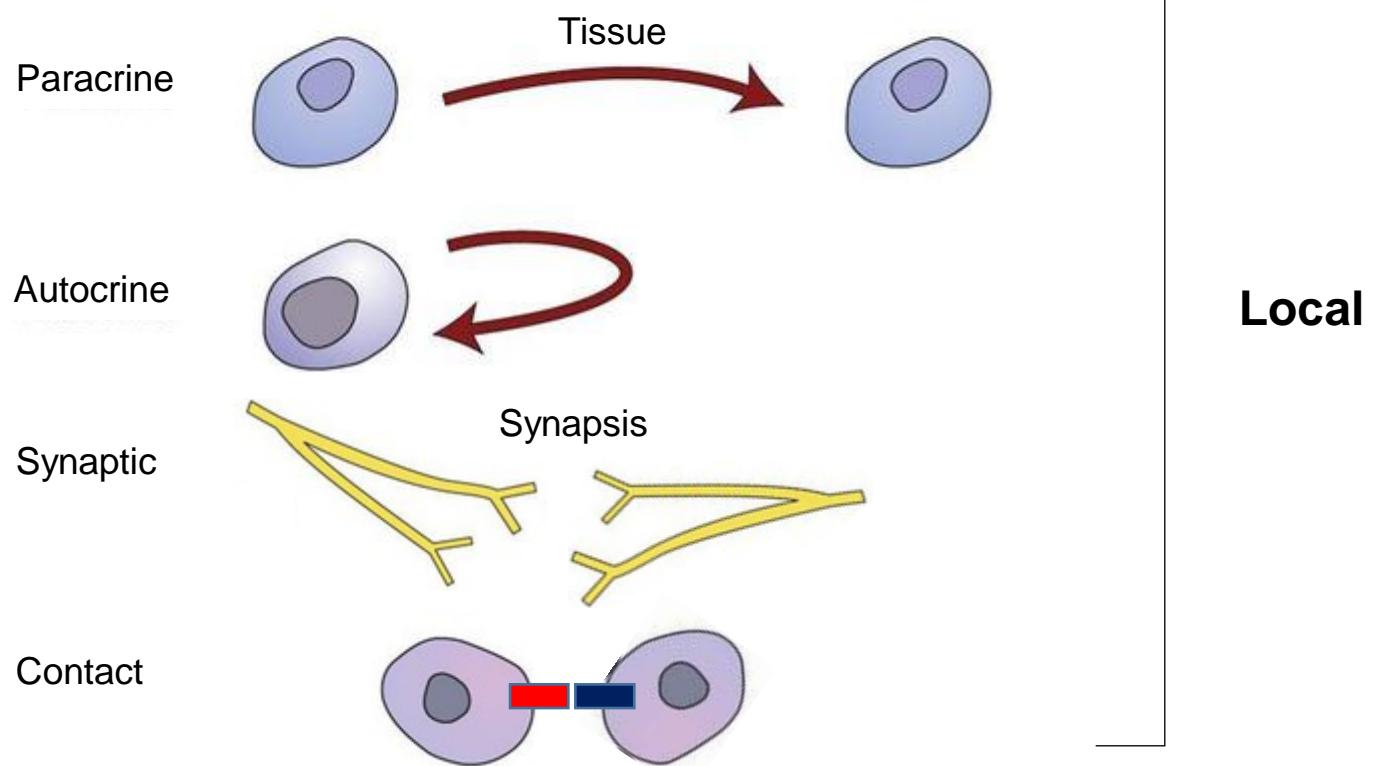
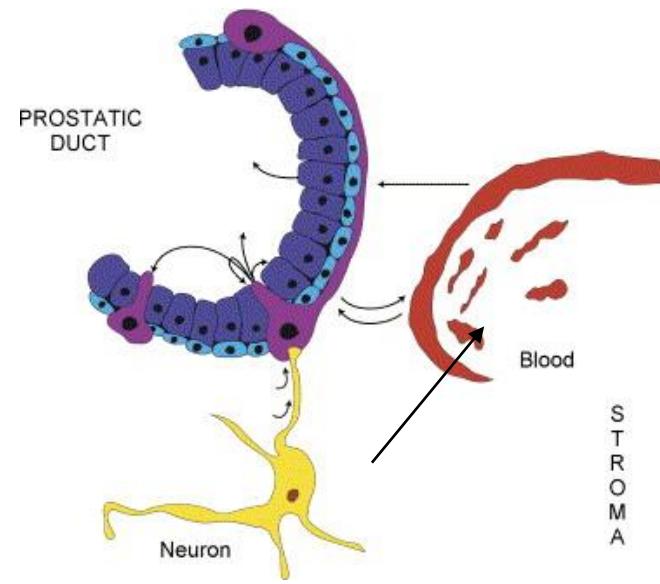
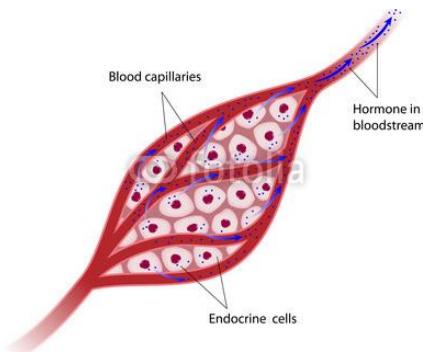
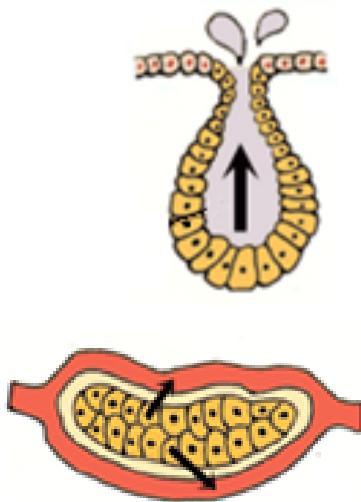


# Intercellular communication



# General properties of endocrine organs

- Endocrine organs (e.g. pituitary, thyroid, parathyroid, adrenal)
- Endocrine tissue within other organs  
(pancreas, gonads, kidneys, placenta)
- Isolated endocrine cells (DNES, APUD)
- Neuroendocrine cells
- Common developmental scheme
  - invagination of epithelia, losing contact with the original tissue
  - ducts absents



# General properties of endocrine organs

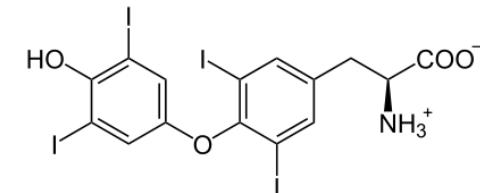
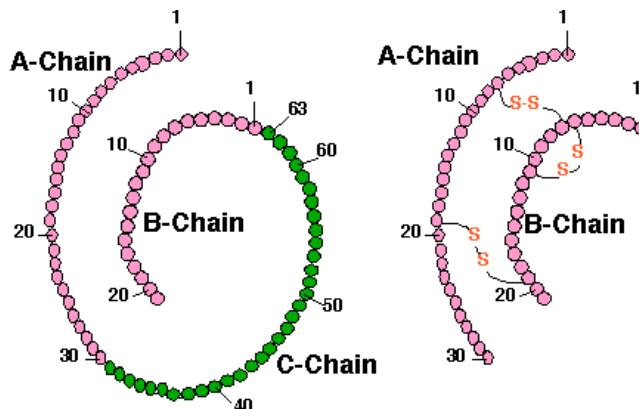
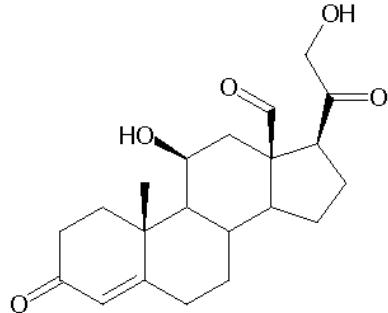
- c.t. capsule + septa
- Trabecules of glandular epithelium, follicles or clusters of glandular cells

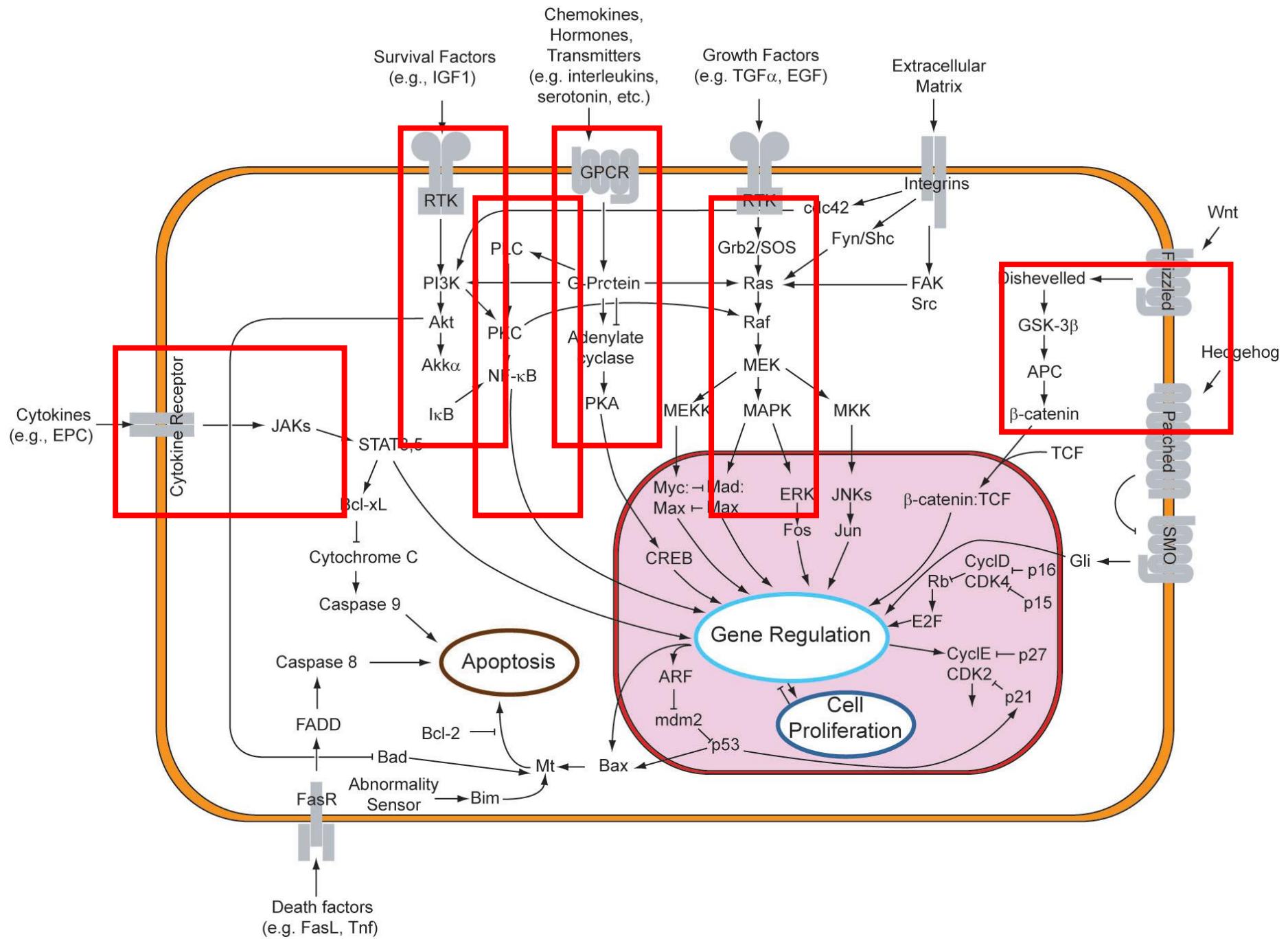
or

- Neurosecretory cells
- Capillary network
  - Fenestrated capillaries
  - Sinusoids
- Merocrine secretion
  - not only hormones – endocrine gland is *sensu lato* also liver

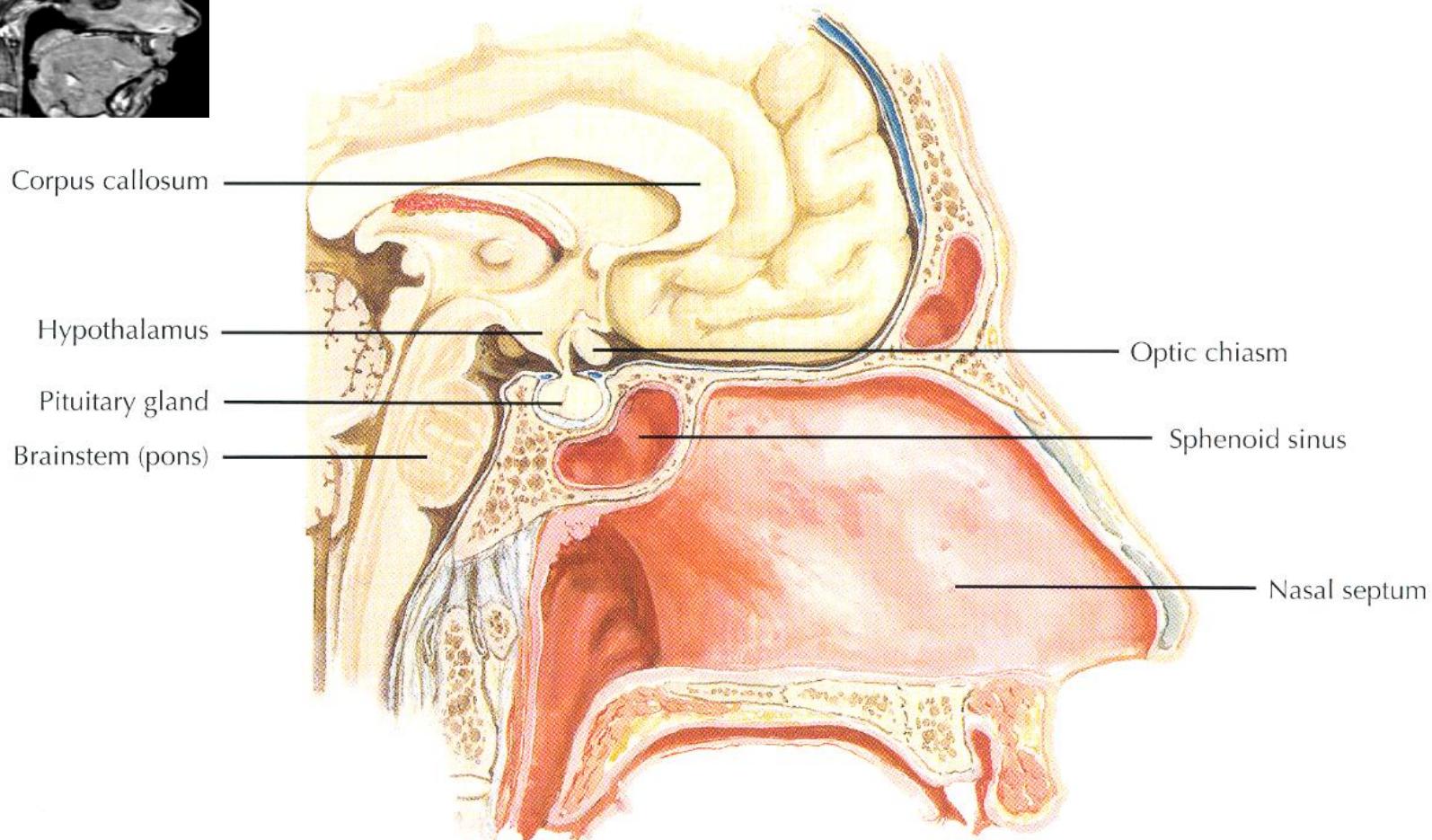
# General properties of hormones

- **steroids** – hydrophobic, intracytoplasmic or nuclear receptors (sex hormones, corticoids)
- **proteins and polypeptides** – hydrophilic, plasma membrane receptors (insulin, pituitary hormones, PTH, ...)
- **aminoacids** and their derivatives (adrenalin, noradrenalin, thyroxin)



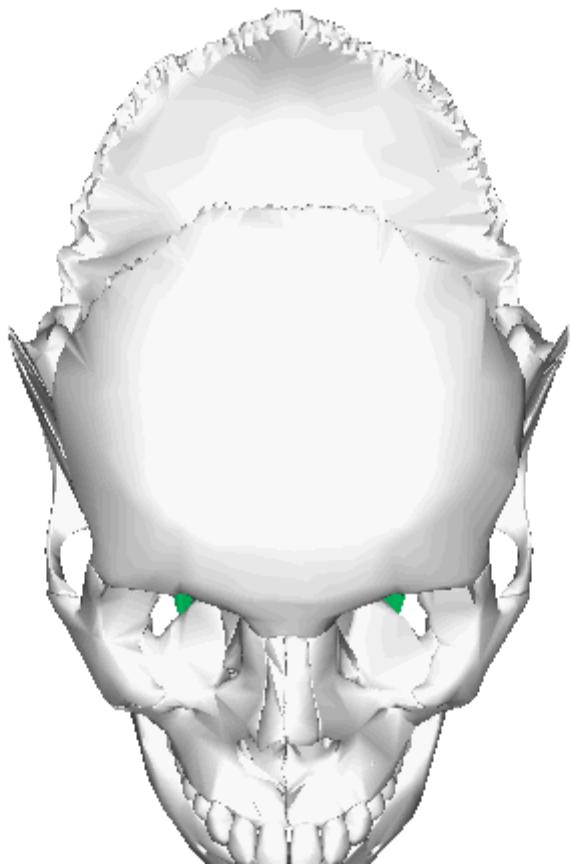


# Pituitary gland (*gl. pituitaria*)

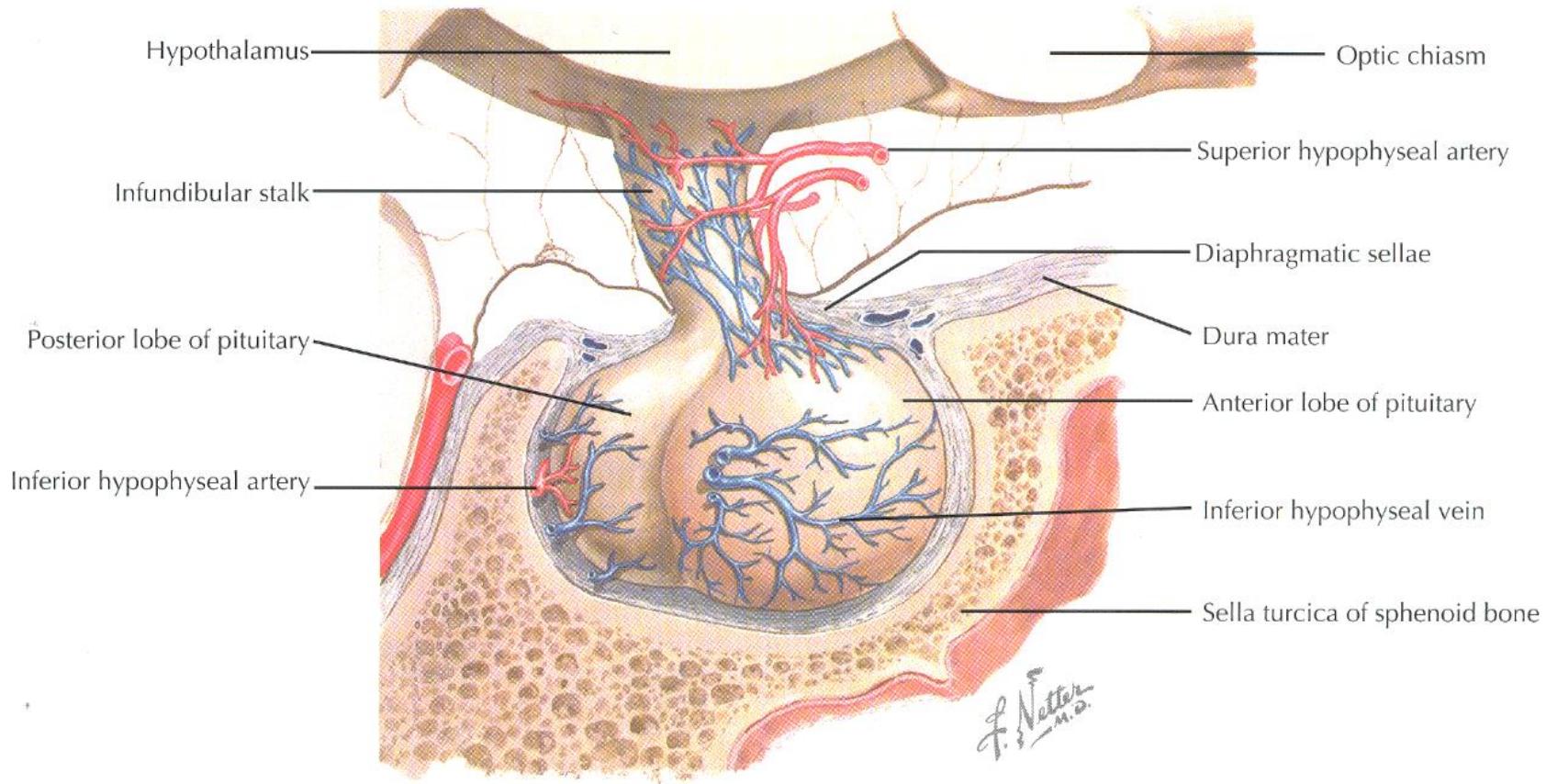
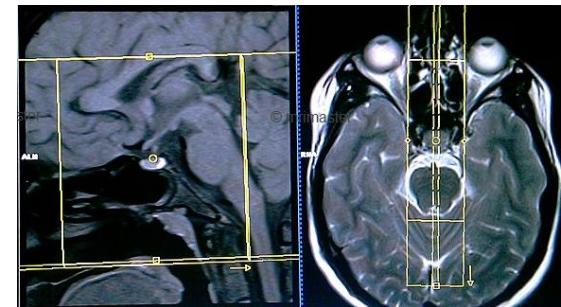


# Pituitary gland (*gl. pituitaria*)

- sphenoid bone
- sella turcica
- fossa hypophysialis

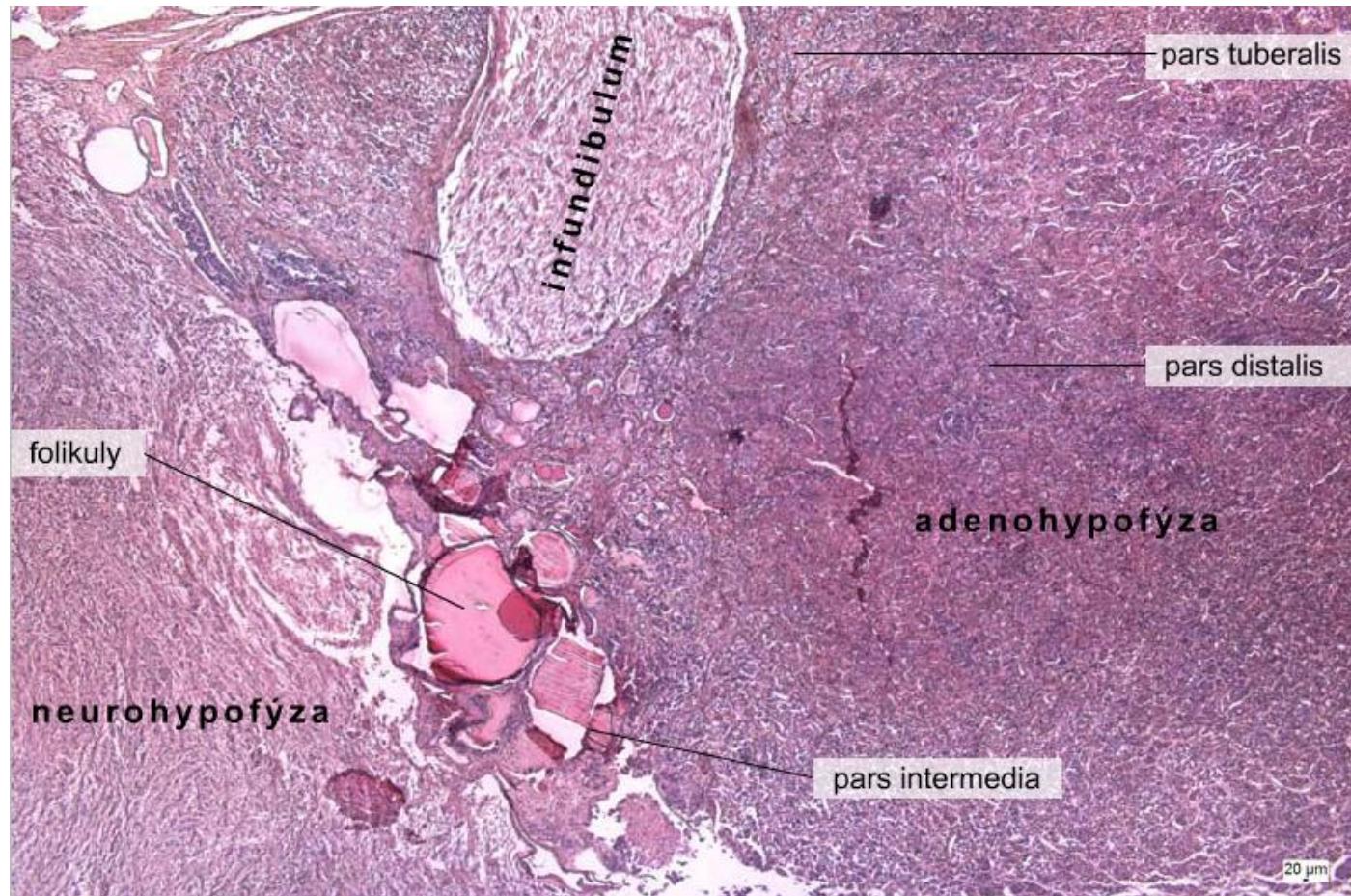


# Pituitary gland (*gl. pituitaria*)



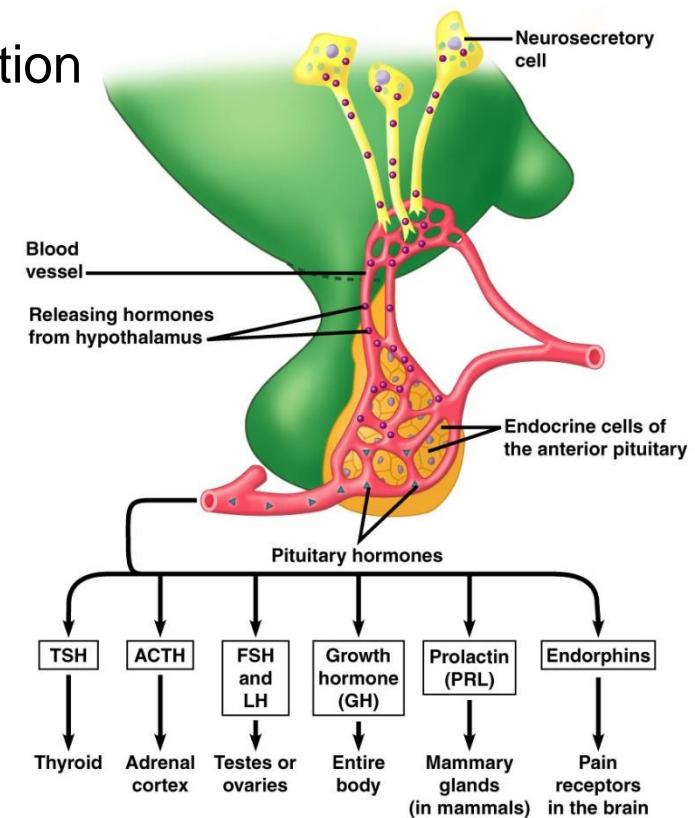
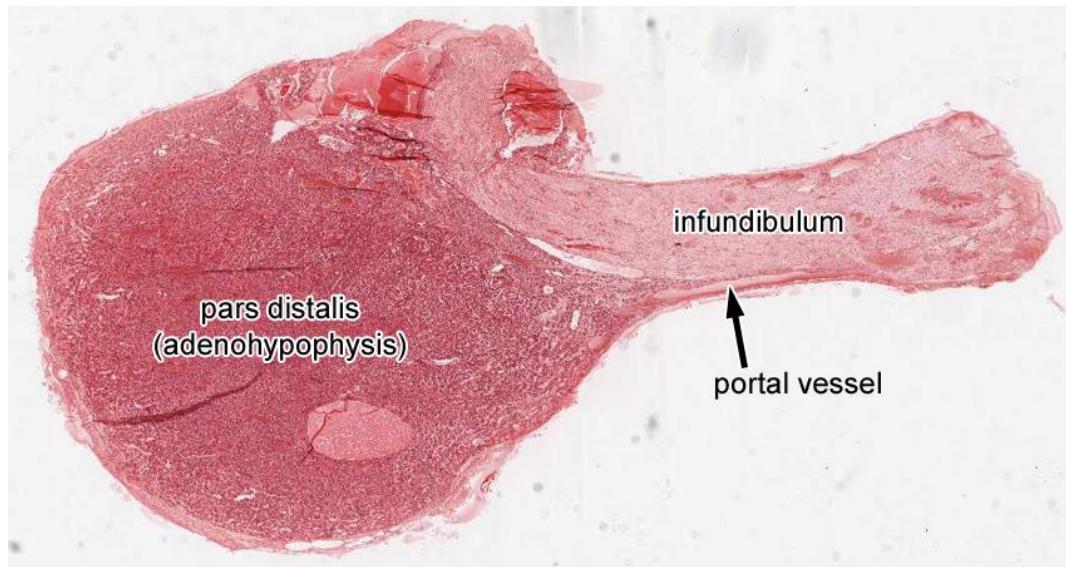
# Pituitary gland (*gl. pituitaria*)

- adenohypophysis (*pars distalis, pars tuberalis, pars intermedia*)
- neurohypophysis (*pars nervosa*)
- *infundibulum, eminentia mediana*



# Pituitary gland (*gl. pituitaria*)

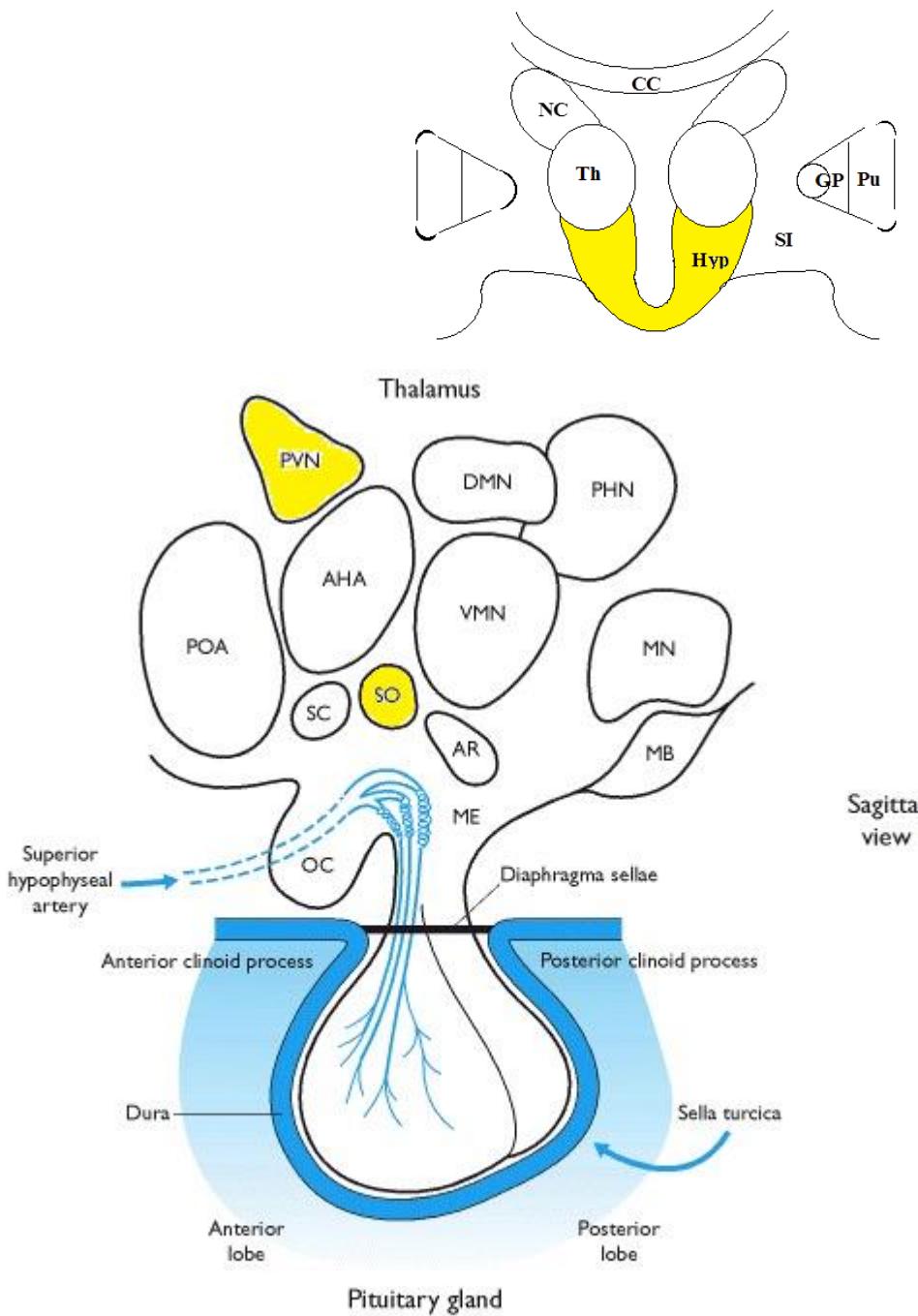
- adenohypophysis - glandotropic hormones, prolactin, GH
- neurohypophysis - hypothalamic hormones - ADH, oxytocin
- anatomical and functional association with hypothalamus
- capillary systems and neuroendocrine secretion



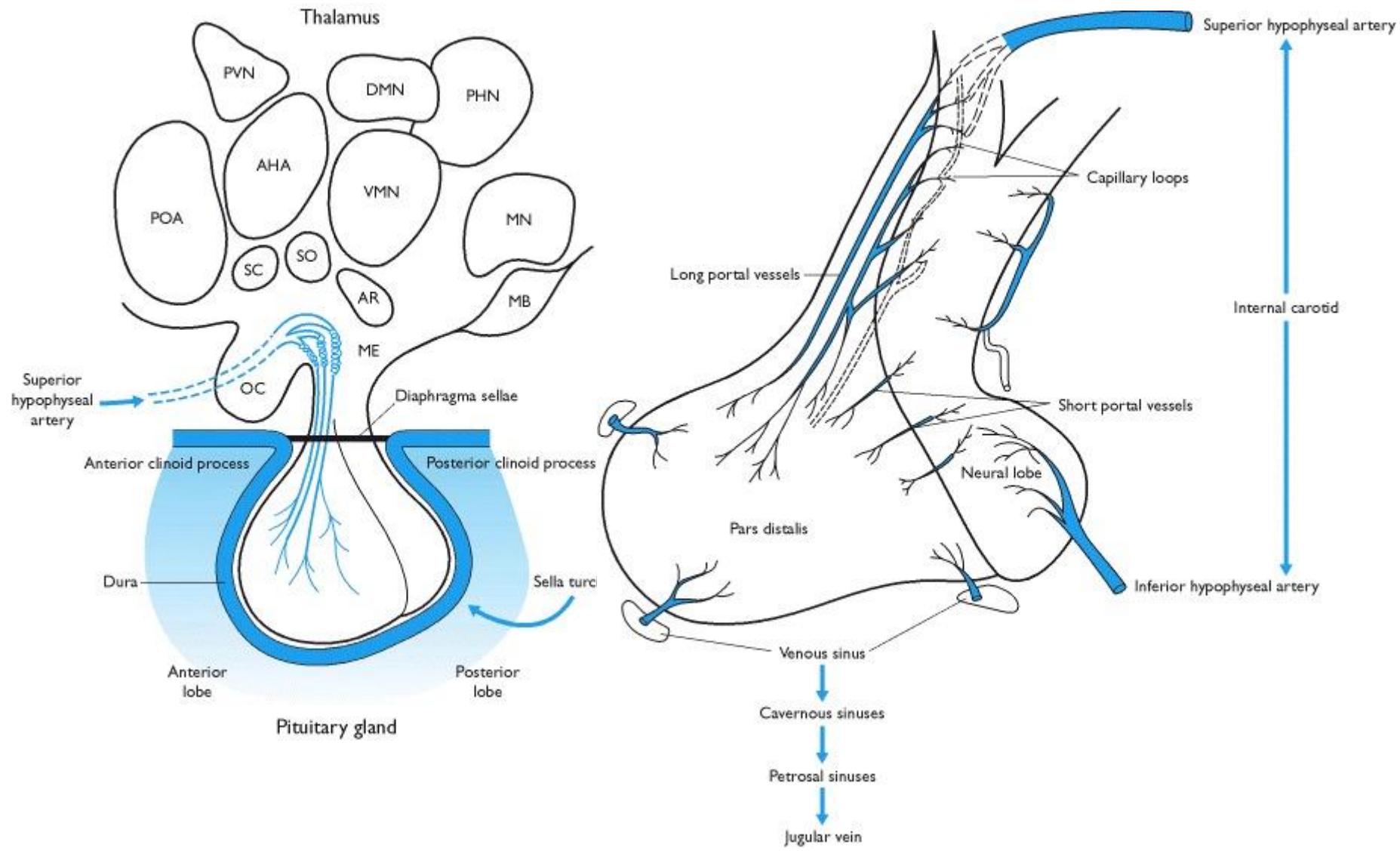
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# Hypothalamus

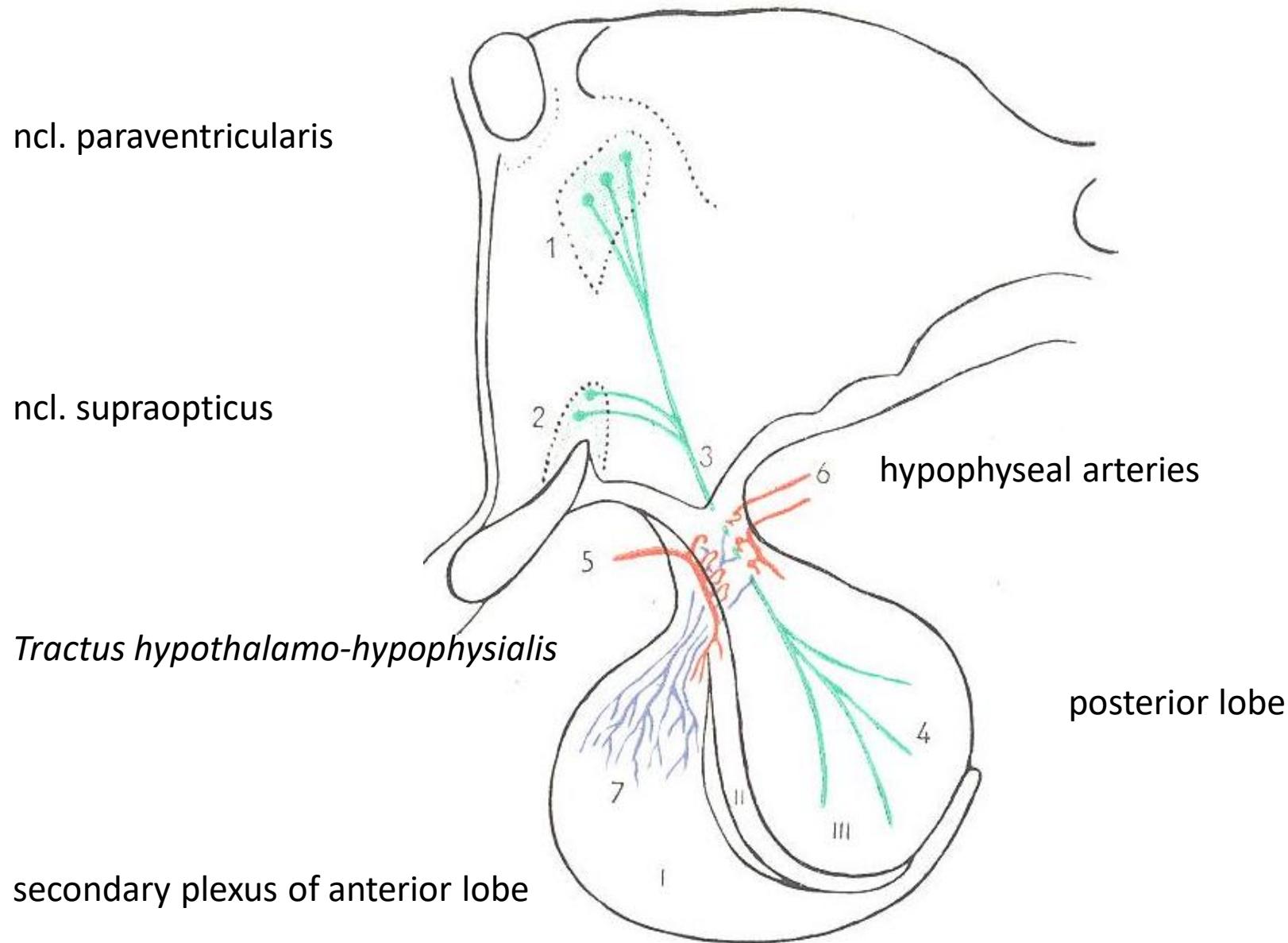
- small region of diencephalon
- complex neuroarchitecture
- core of the limbic system
- complex functions
  - regulation of temperature, emotions, eating behavior, circadian rhythms
  - hormonal regulation controlled by various stimuli (osmoreception, concentration of nutrients, electrolytes, systemic functions - pain)
- hypothalamic nuclei
  - *n. supraopticus, n. paraventricularis*
  - magnocellular neurons - *tractus hypothalamo-hypophysialis*
  - parvocellular neurons - capillaries in *eminentia mediana*

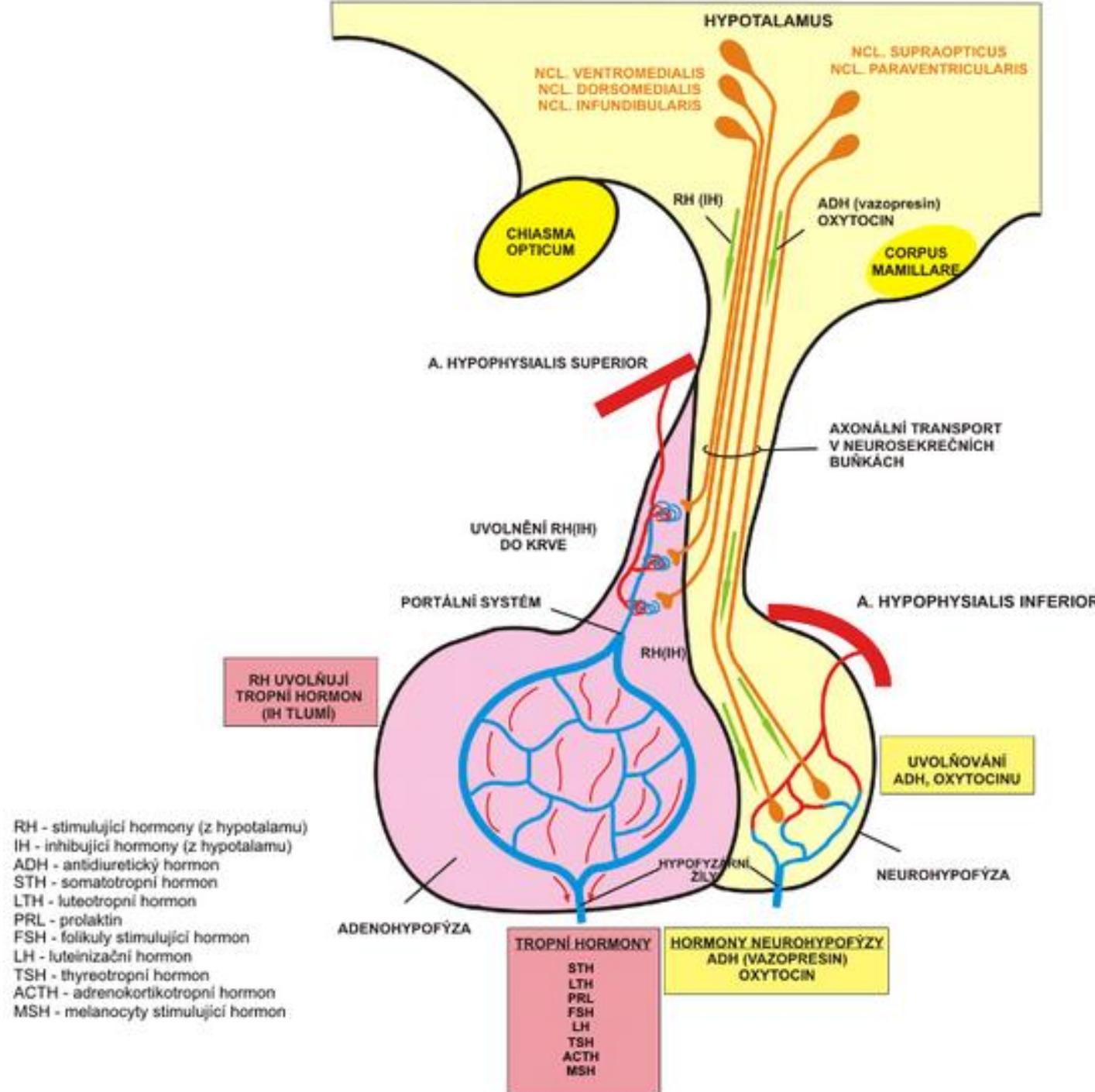


# Hypothalamo-hypophyseal system



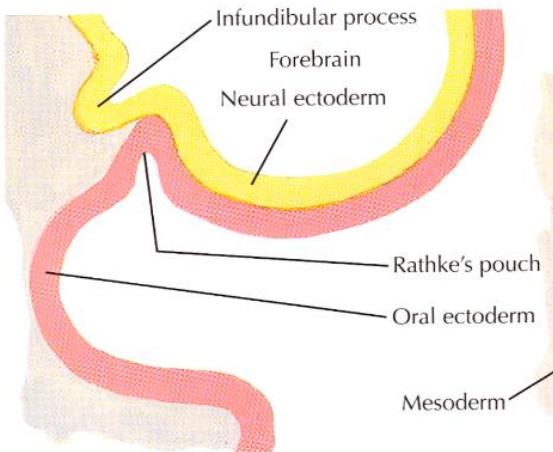
# Capillary system of hypophysis



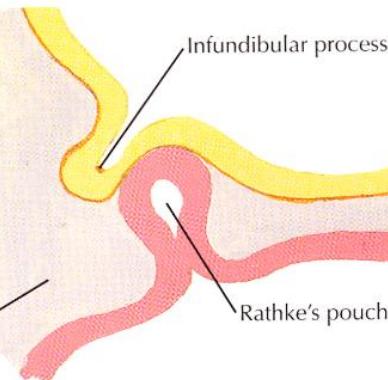


# Embryonal development of pituitary gl.

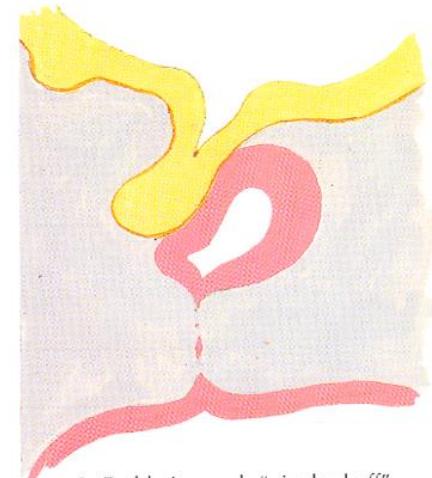
- Ectoderm (Rathke's pouch)
- Neuroectoderm of ventral wall of diencephalon



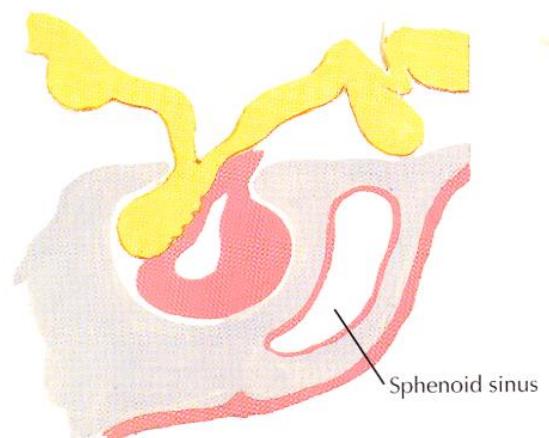
1. Beginning formation of Rathke's pouch and infundibular process



2. Neck of Rathke's pouch constricted by growth of mesoderm



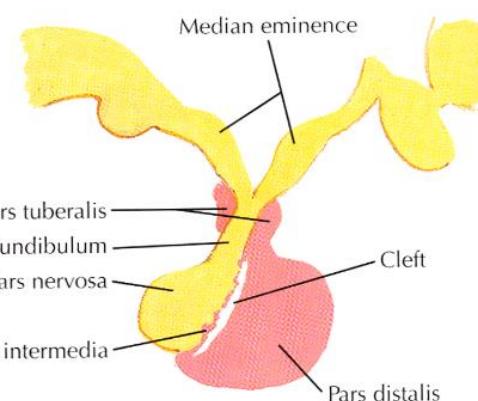
3. Rathke's pouch "pinched off"



4. "Pinched off" segment conforms to neural process, forming pars distalis, pars intermedia and pars tuberalis

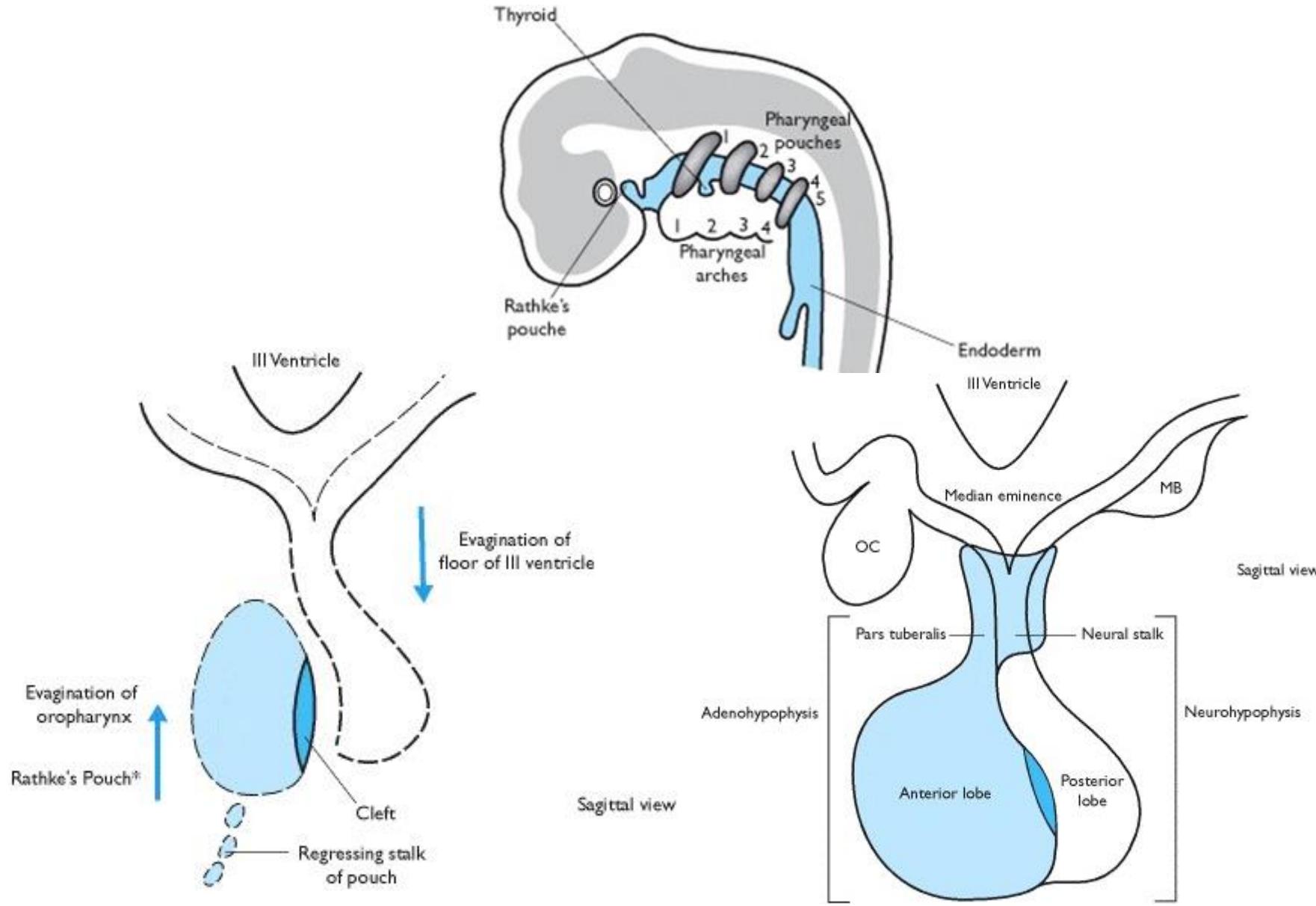


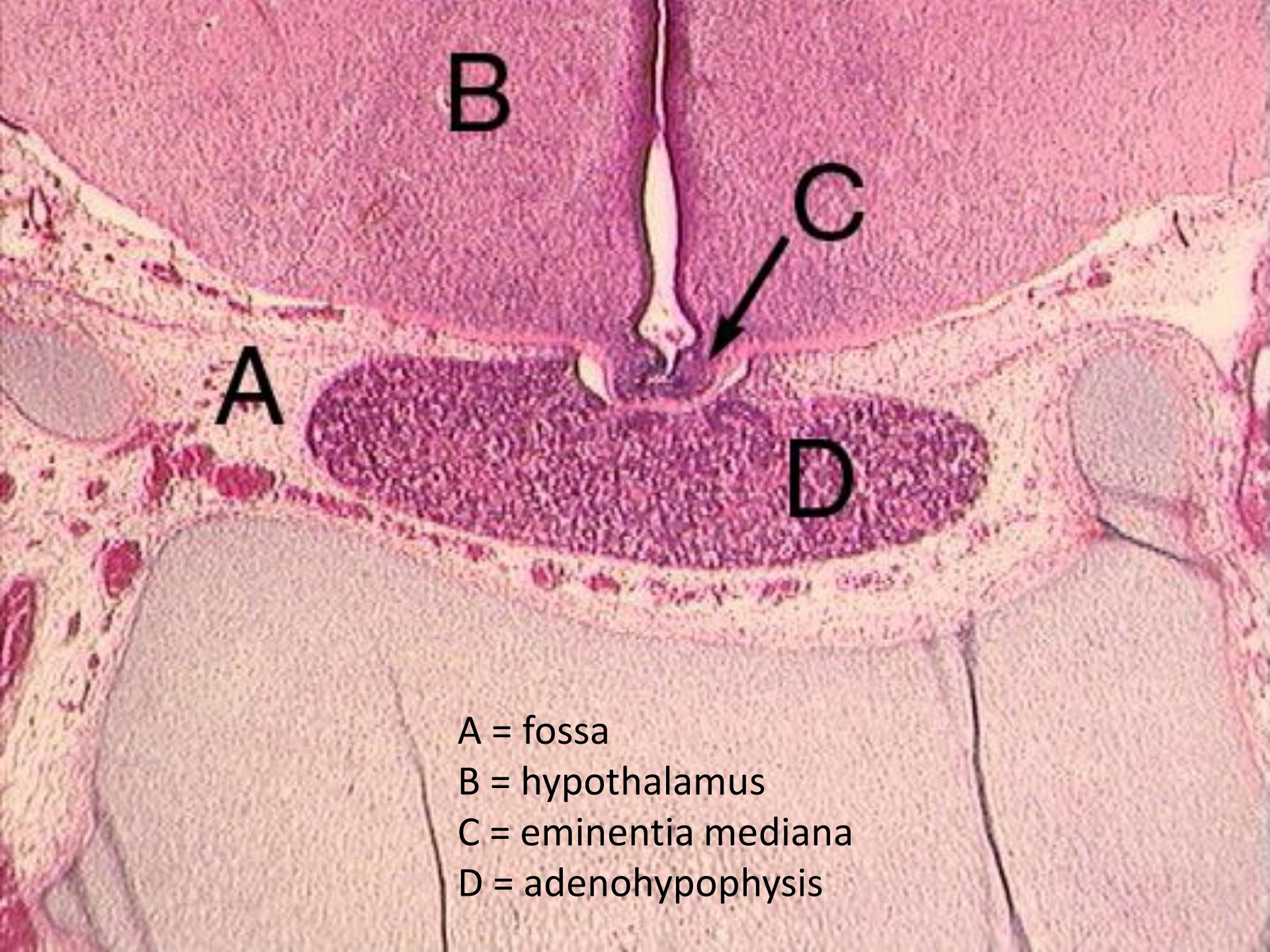
5. Pars tuberalis encircles infundibular stalk (lateral surface view)



6. Mature form

# Embryonal development of pituitary gl.





A = fossa

B = hypothalamus

C = eminentia mediana

D = adenohypophysis

# Adenohypophysis (anterior lobe)

## Chromophilic cells

### Acidophils

Nonglandotropic

- direct effect on target tissues

### Bazophils

Glandotropic

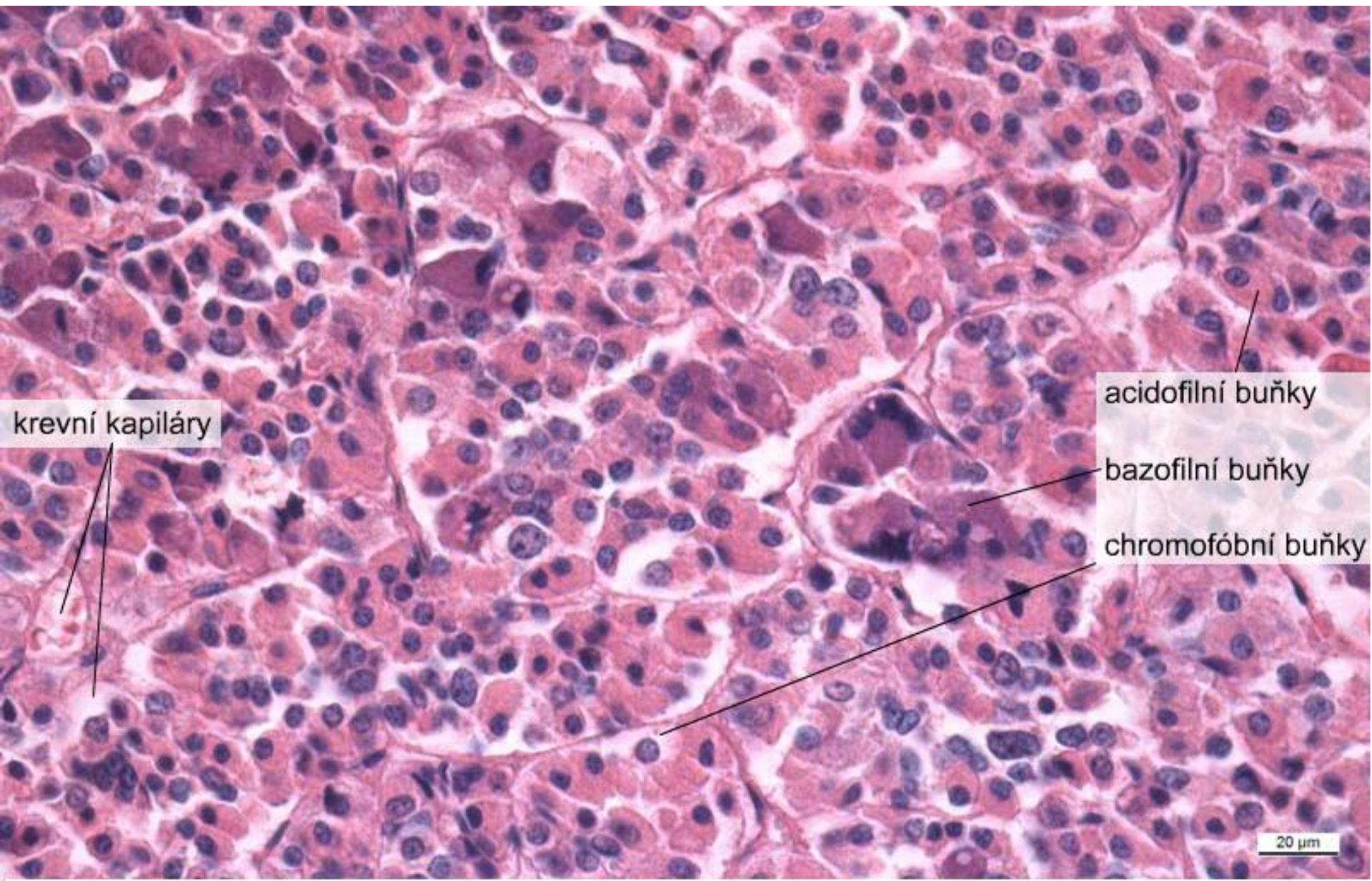
- regulation of other endocrine glands

## Chromophobic cells

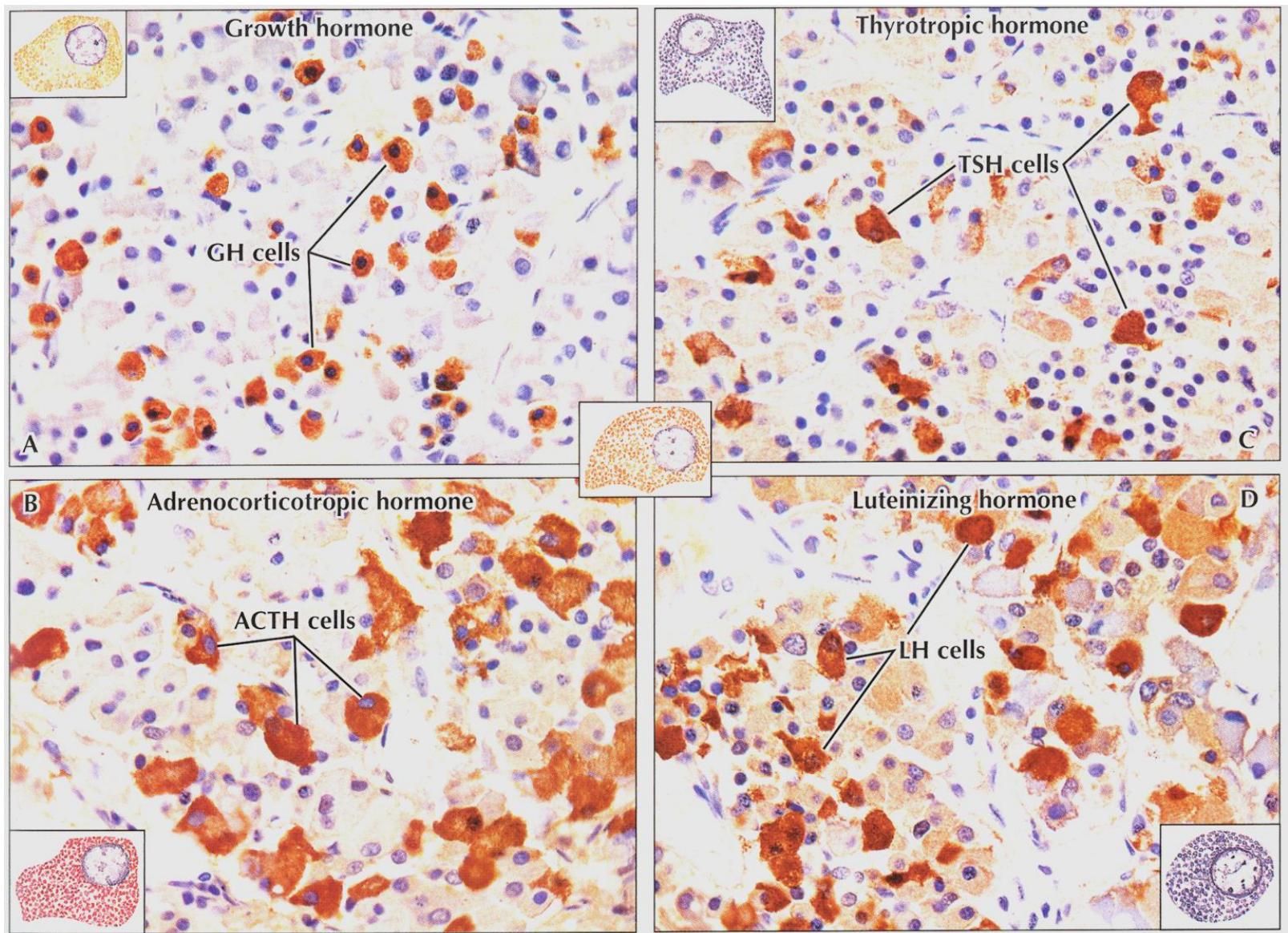
- undifferentiated cells
- degranulated (“empty”) chromophils
- stromal cells



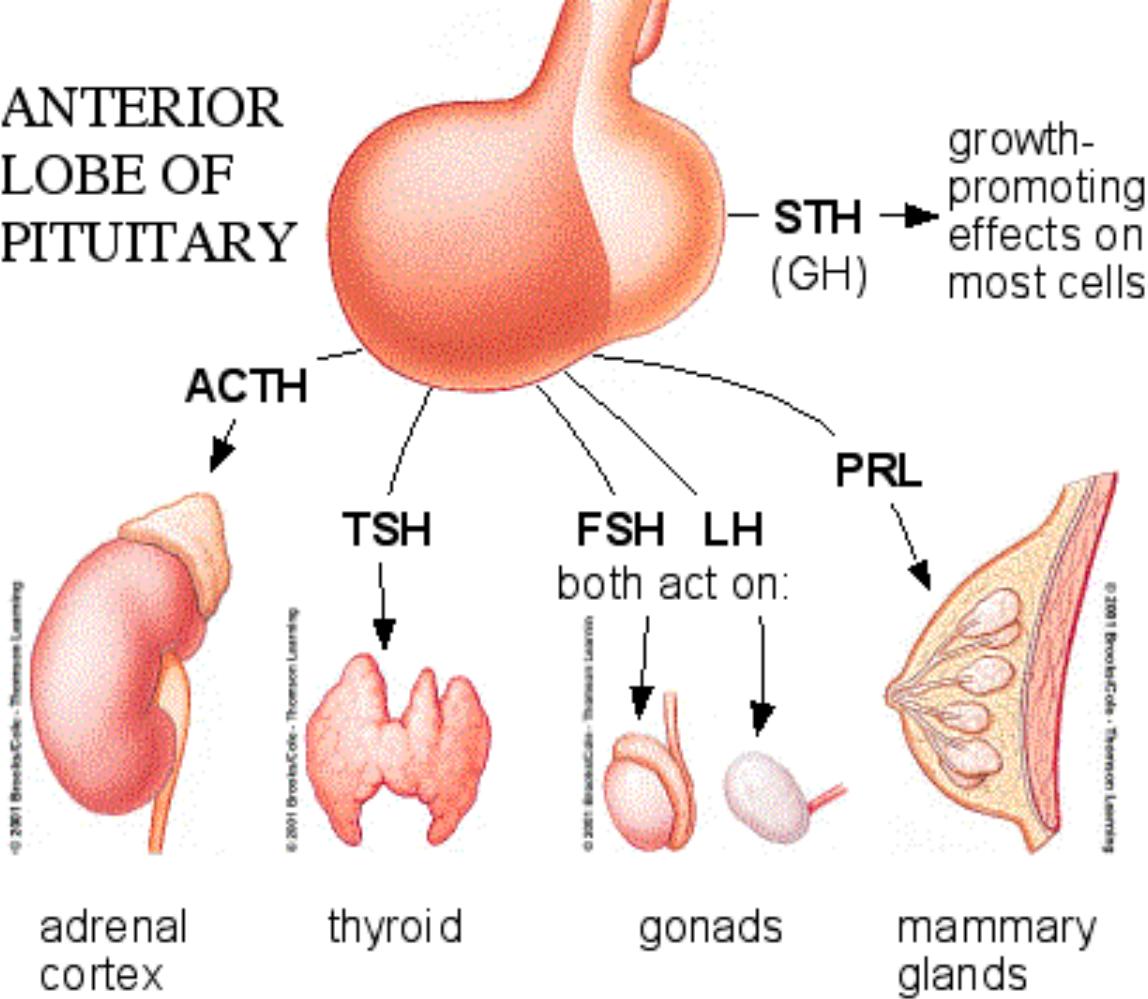
# Adenohypophysis (anterior lobe)



# Adenohypophysis (anterior lobe)



## ANTERIOR LOBE OF PITUITARY



## "FLAT PEG"

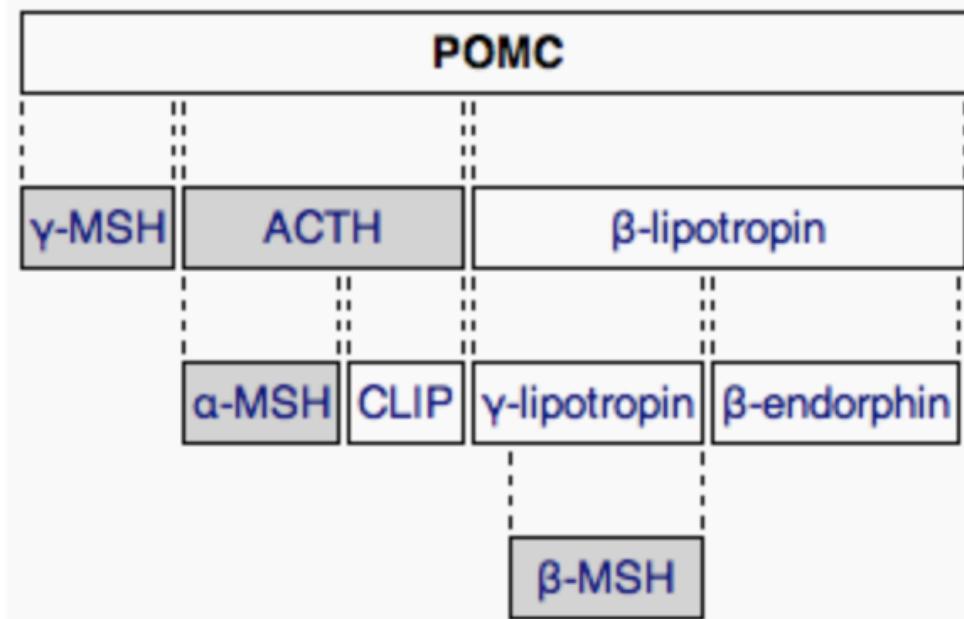
- FSH
- LH
- ACTH
- TSH
- Prolactin
- Endorphins
- Growth hormone

# Pro-opio-melanocortin (POMC)

rough ER → pre-prohormon  
produced by various tissues

cleavage to

- ACTH (target: adrenal cortex → kortisol)
- MSH (target: melanocytes - mostly in paracrine way)
- lipotropin (lipolysis, steroidogenesis)
- endorphins



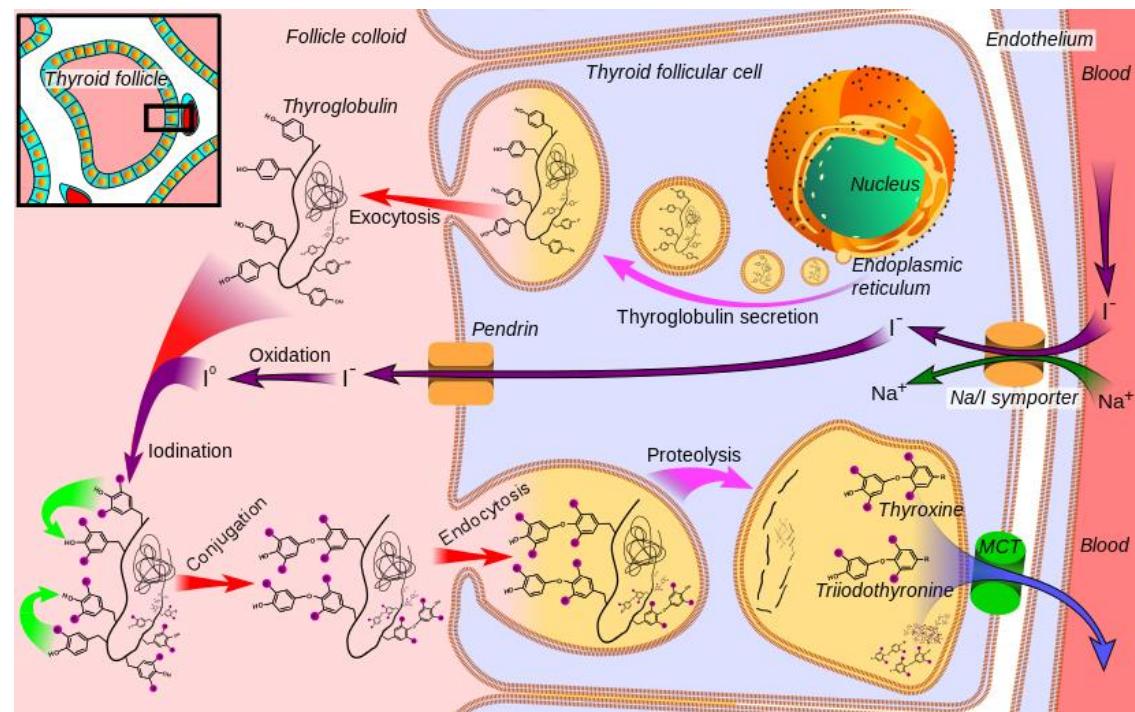
# FSH (folitropin), LH (lutropin)

- gonadotropic cells of adenohypophysis stimulated by GnRH
- glycoproteins, 30kDa
- heterodimer, two noncovalent bound subunits (**a/α** - common for - LH, FSH, TSH, hCG, **b/β** - specific)
- FSH receptor (testes, ovary, uterus) G-protein coupled receptor
  - glycosylated extracellular domain of 11 leucine rich repeats specific to FSH
  - after ligand binding, activation of G-protein and cAMP signaling
  - alternative activation of MAPK cascade (ERK)
  - complex signaling response (prostaglandins, PLPc, NO)

	FSH	LH
ovary	follicle development (FSHR in <i>m. granulosa cells</i> )	ovulation, development of corpus luteum, production of androgens in thecal cells
testes	spermatogenesis, FSHR in Sertoli cells	production of testosterone in Leydig cells (expression of LHR)
extragonadal	FSHR in secretory endometrium of luteal phase uterus (endometrial functions, embryo-endometrial interactions)	uterus, seminal vesicles, prostate, skin... unknown function

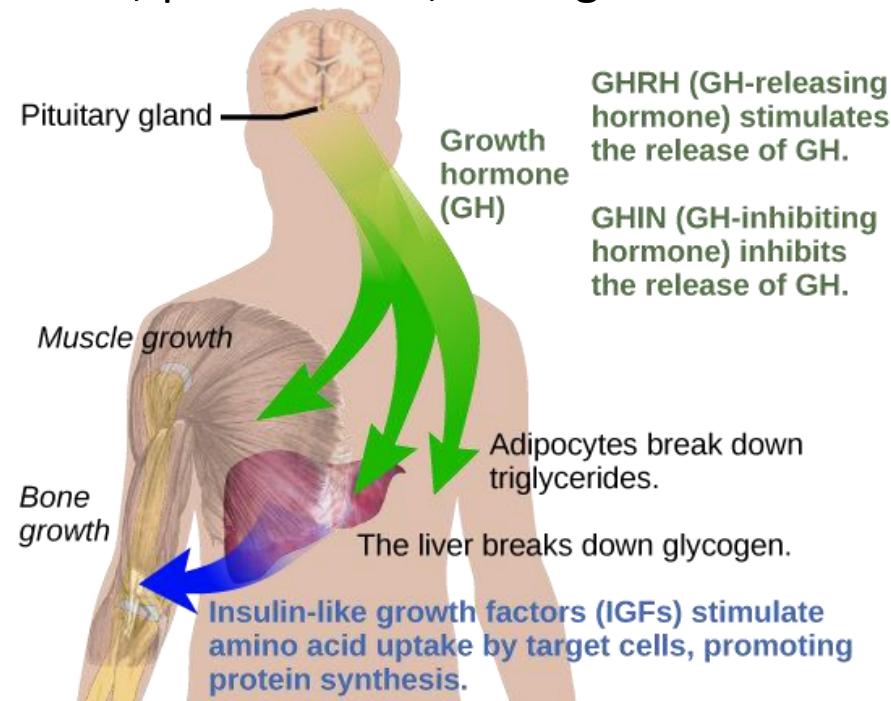
# TSH, thyrotropin

- thyrotropic cells of adenohypophysis stimulated by TRH
- production of T4 (thyroxin) a T3 (triiodothyronin) by thyroid gland
- glycoprotein, 28,5 kDa, heterodimer, two noncovalent bound subunits (a, b)
- TSH receptor on thyroid follicular cells
- G-protein signaling → adenylylcyclase → cAMP
- cAMP → iodide channels (pendrin), transcription of thyreoglobulin, endo- and exocytic pathway
- cross-reactivity with hCG → in pregnancy - alterations in synthesis of thyroid hormones (gestational hyperthyroidism)



# GH, somatotropin, growth hormone

- somatotropic cells of adenohypophysis stimulated by GHRH (somatocrinin)
- several molecular isoforms (alternative splicing), ~20-24 kDa
- broad spectrum of target cell types and physiological circuits
- transcription of DNA, translation of RNA, proteosynthesis
- lipid use (fatty acid mobilization, conversion to acetyl-CoA)
- inhibition of direct use of glucose, stimulation of gluconeogenesis
- transmembrane transport of aminoacids
- proteosynthesis in chondrocytes and osteoblasts, proliferation, osteogenesis
- GHR in various tissues
- RTK, JAK-STAT
- somatomedins
- small proteins (MW 7,5 kDa), IGF-like
- produced by liver
- various pathologies associated with GH



**Table 2. Nonclassical Anterior Pituitary Substances and Cell(s) of Origin**

<b>Substances</b>	<b>Cell Types</b>
<b>PEPTIDES</b>	
ACTIVIN B, INHIBIN, FOLLISTATIN	F,G
ALDOSTERONE STIMULATING FACTOR	UN
ANGIOTENSIN II (ANGIOTENSINOGEN, ANGIOTENSIN I)	
CONVERTING ENZYME, CATHEPSIN B, RENIN)	C,G,L,S
ATRIAL NATURETIC PEPTIDE	G
CORTicotropin-Releasing Hormone-BINDING PROTEIN	C
DYNORPHIN	G
GALANIN	L,S,T
GAWK (CHROMOGRANIN B)	G
GROWTH HORMONE RELEASING HORMONE	UN
HISTIDYL PROLINE DIKETOPIPERAZINE	UN
MOTILIN	S
NEUROMEDIN B	T
NEUROMEDIN U	C
NEUROPEPTIDE Y	T
NEUROTENSIN	UN
PROTEIN 7B2	G,T
SOMATOSTATIN 28	UN
SUBSTANCE P (SUBSTANCE K)	G,L,T
THYROTROPIN RELEASING HORMONE	G,L,S,T
VASOACTIVE INTESTINAL POLYPEPTIDE	G,L,T
<b>GROWTH FACTORS</b>	
BASIC FIBROBLAST GROWTH FACTOR	C,F
CHONDROCYTE GROWTH FACTOR	UN
EPIDERMAL GROWTH FACTOR	G,T
INSULIN-LIKE GROWTH FACTOR I	S,F
NERVE GROWTH FACTOR	UN
PITUITARY CYTOTROPIC FACTOR	UN
TRANSFORMING GROWTH FACTOR ALPHA	L,S,G
VASCULAR ENDOTHELIAL GROWTH FACTOR	F
<b>CYTOKINES</b>	
INTERLEUKIN-1 BETA	T
INTERLEUKIN-6	F
LEUKEMIA INHIBITORY FACTOR	C,F
<b>NEUROTRANSMITTERS</b>	
ACETYLCHOLINE	C,L
NITRIC OXIDE	F

C = corticotroph, F = folliculostellate cell, G = gonadotroph, L = lactotroph,  
 S = somatotroph, T = thyrotroph, UN = unknown

# Clinical links

## Hypophyseal tumors

- compression of surrounding structures (optic chiasma)
- hyperfunction of endocrine component
  - prolactinoma - galactorrhea
  - hypogonadism (alterations of GnRH)
  - gigantism - acromegaly
  - nanism



# Posterior hypophysis (neurohypophysis)

## nonmyelinated nerve fibers

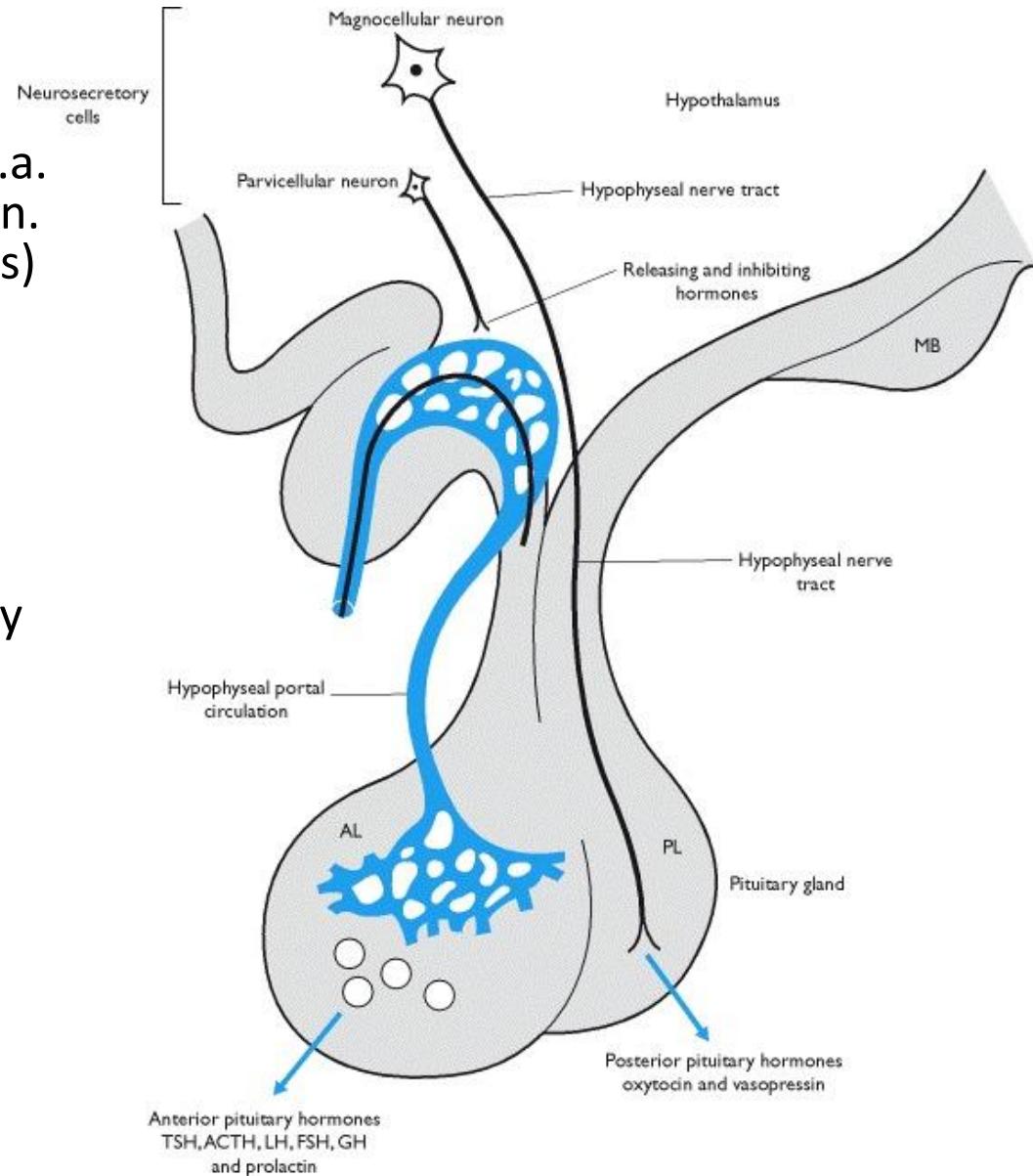
- axons of neurosecretory cells (c.a. 100 000) of hypothalamic nuclei (n. supraopticus and paraventricularis)

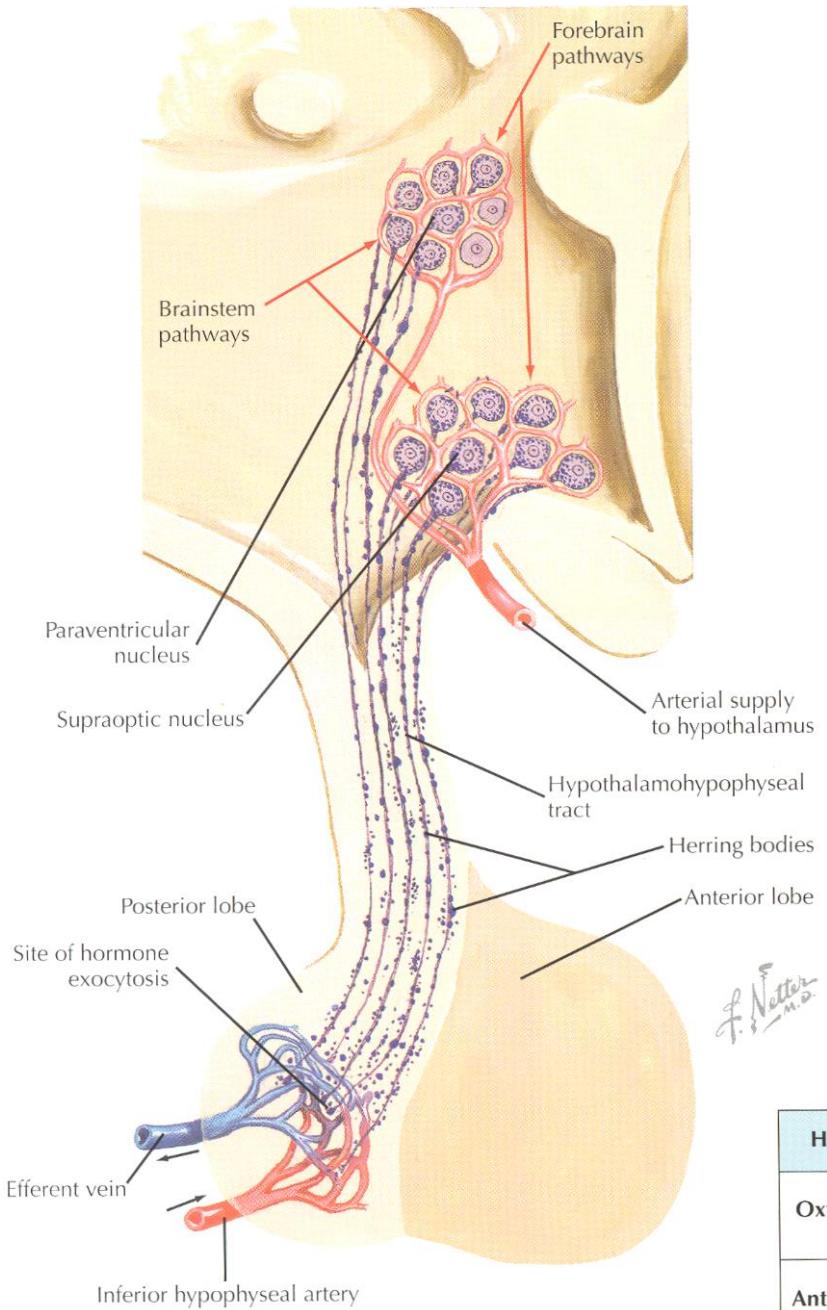
## pituicytes (neuroglia)

- astrocyte-like (intermediate filaments, GFAP)
- local control of secretion from neurosecretory termini
- Herring bodies – neurosecretory endings – dilatation close to capillaries

## Hormones

- oxytocin (OT)
- antidiuretic hormone (ADH, vasopresin)

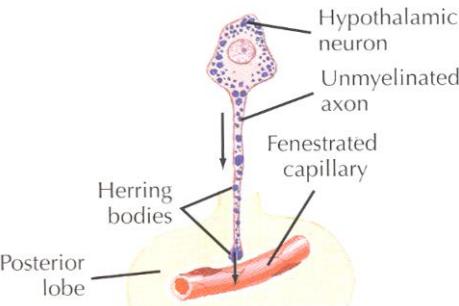




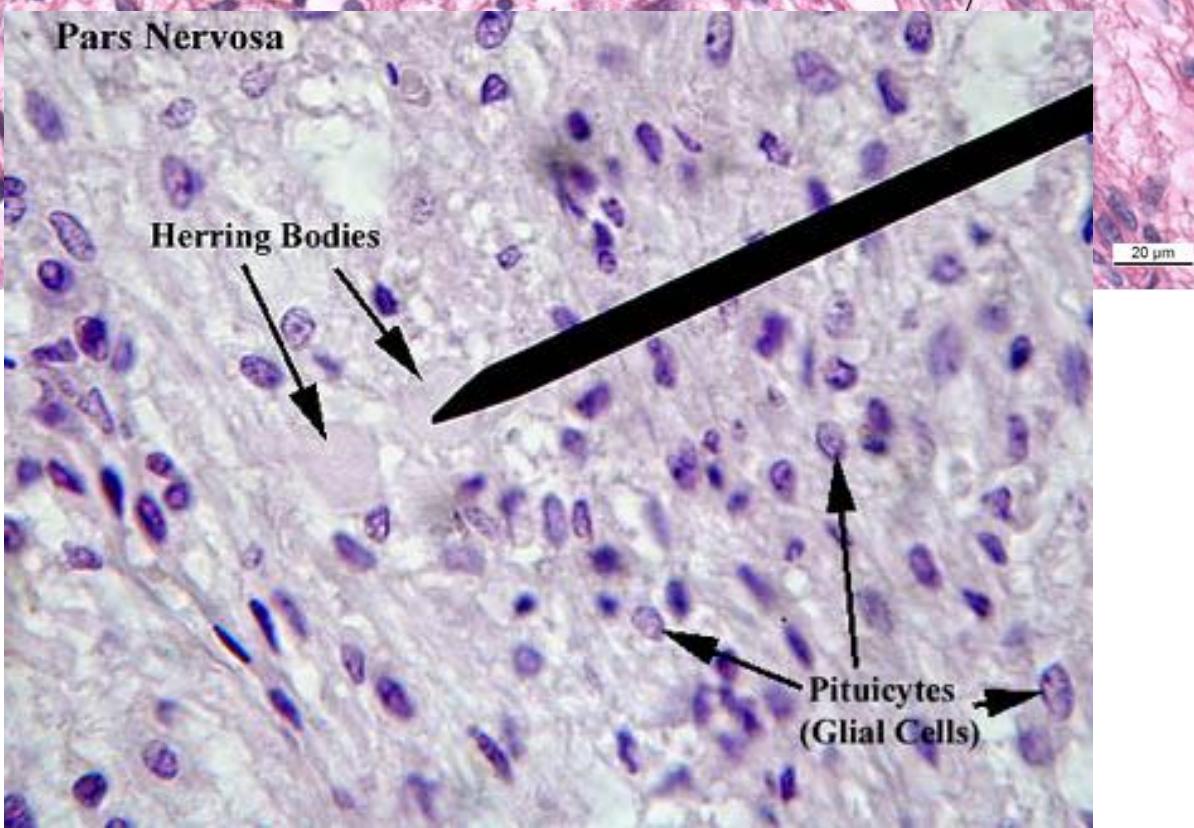
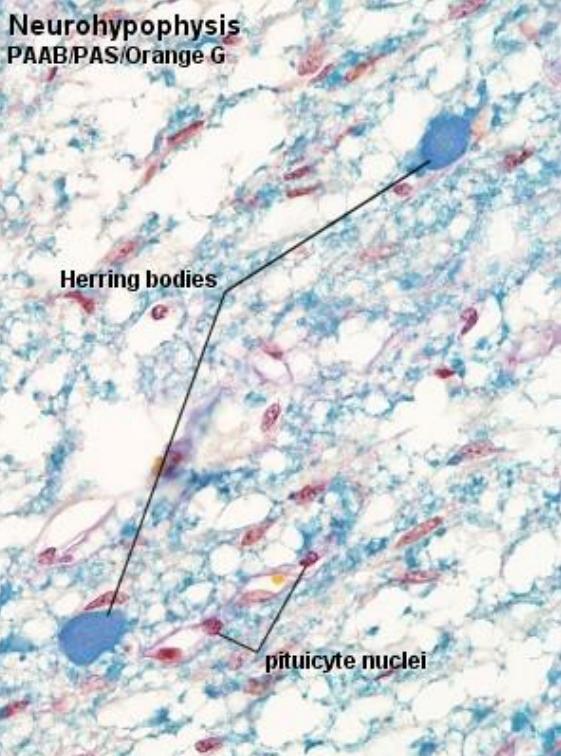
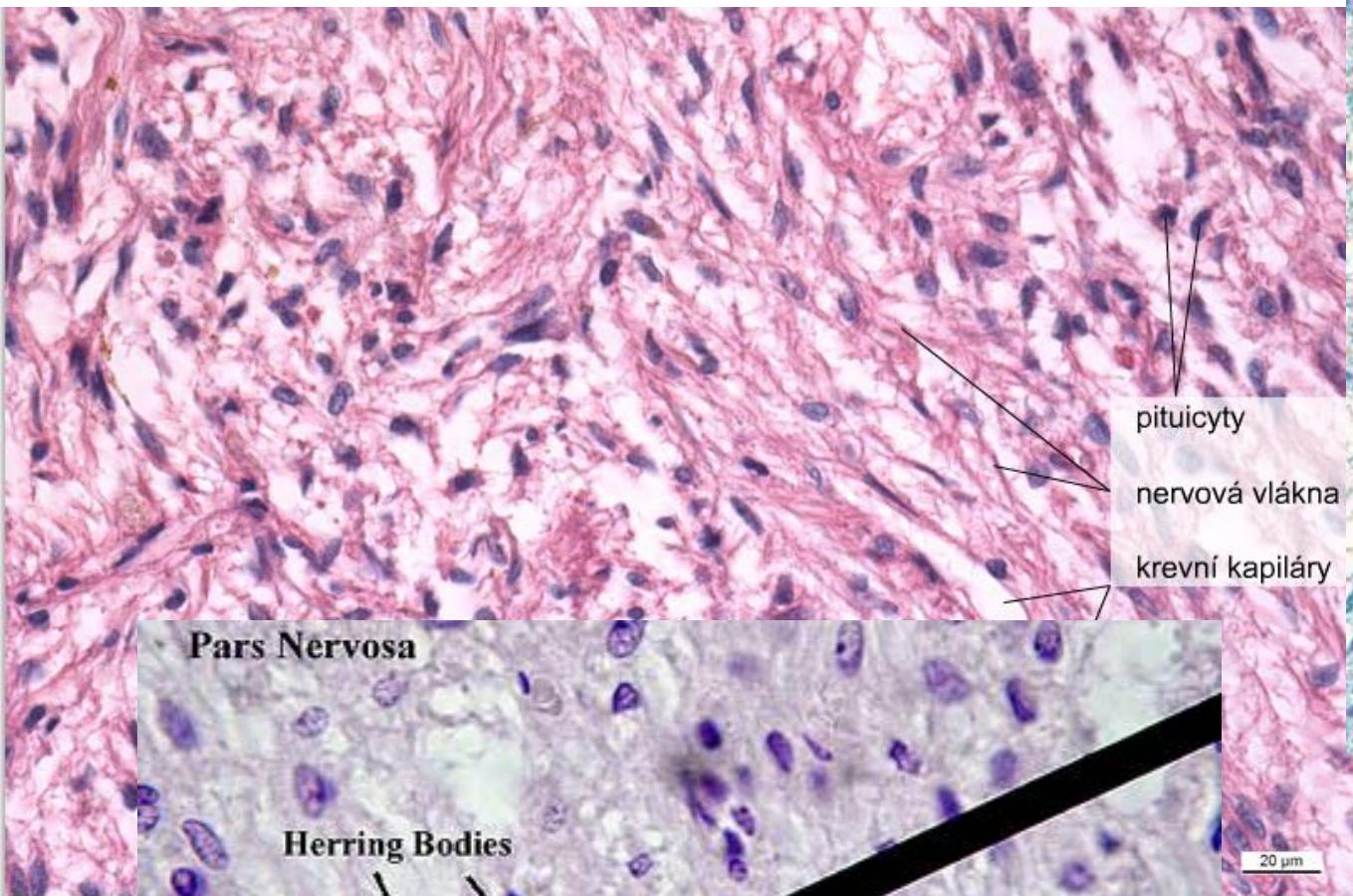
▼ Neurosecretory Ending (posterior pituitary).



▼ Origin of ADH.

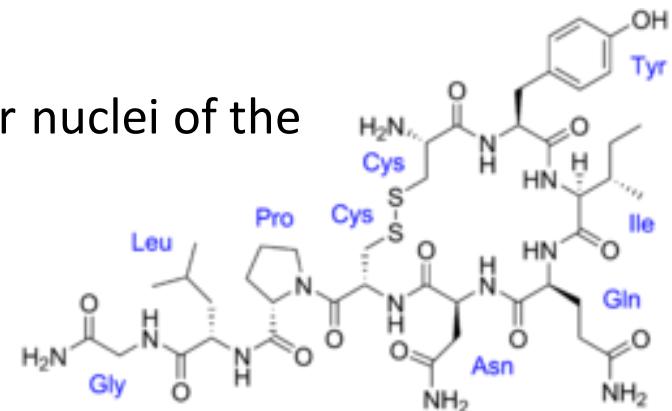


Hormone	Principal Action	Principal Nucleus of Origin
Oxytocin (OXY)	Uterine contraction, milk ejection	Paraventricular
Anti-diuretic hormone (ADH)	Water excretion in kidney, arteriolar constriction	Supraoptic



# Oxytocin

- nonapeptide
- magno-cellular supraoptic and paraventricular nuclei of the hypothalamus
- OR - G-coupled receptor
- lactation reflex
- uterine contraction
- social behavior



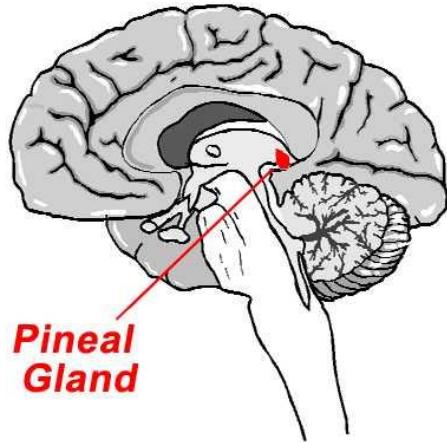
# Vasopressin

- nonapeptide
- retention of water
- effective in collecting duct and distal convoluted tubule (aquaporine translocations)
- blood pressure regulation by affecting t. media
- diabetes insipidus, hypernatremia, polyuremia

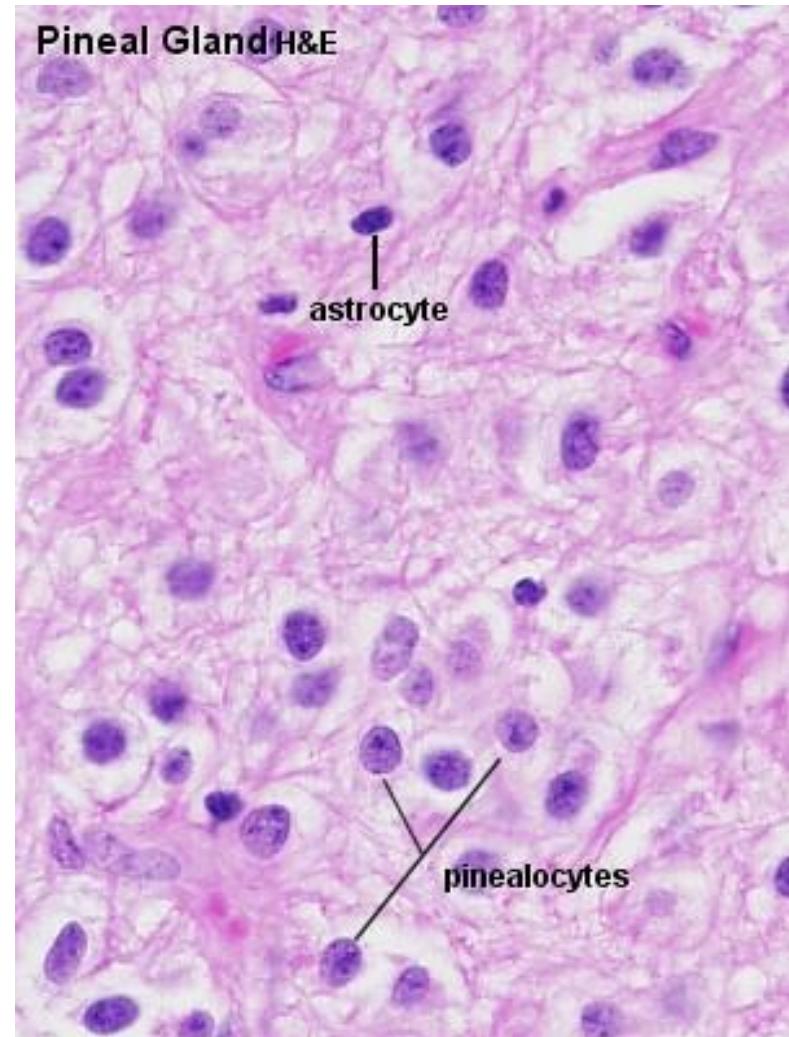


Anatomy		Microscopic anatomy		Hormones and target tissues			
Anterior lobe (adenohypophysis)	pars distalis	superior hypophyseal arteries → primary capillary plexus → hypophyseal portal veins + inferior hypophyseal arteries → secondary capillary plexus → hypophyseal portal veins → vv. jugulares internae	trabecular epithelium in cords and clusters, reticular fibers				
				chromophobes	undifferentiated cells degranulated chromophilic cells stromal cells		
					lack hormonal activity		
	pars tuberalis		acidophilic nonglandotropic	mammatropic cells	dopamin (PIH) ↓ (PRF → prolactin)	mammary gland in gravidity and lactations	
					somatostatin (GHIH) ↓ GHRH → somatotropin (STH)	directly liver and growth plates other tissues via somatomedins	
			basophilic glandotropic	corticotropic cells	CRH → ACTH, MSH	adrenal cortex → cortisol melanocytes	
	pars intermedia	Rathke's cysts		thyrotropic cells	TRH → TSH	thyroid → thyroxin, T3	
	gonadotropic cells	GnRH → FSH (ICSH), LH		gonads → androgens, estrogens, progesterone			
Posterior lobe (neurohypophysis)	eminentia mediana → infundibulum	anterior and posterior superior hypophyseal arteries → primary capillary plexus, fenestrated capillaries	nonmyelinated axons of hypothalamic neurons n. supraopticus, n. paraventricularis (tractus hypothalamohypophysialis), pituicytes	small peptides	ADH	tubulus reuniens, ductus colligens t.media of vessels	
	pars nervosa				oxytocin	myometrium of uterus during gravidity myoepithelium of lactating mammary gland	

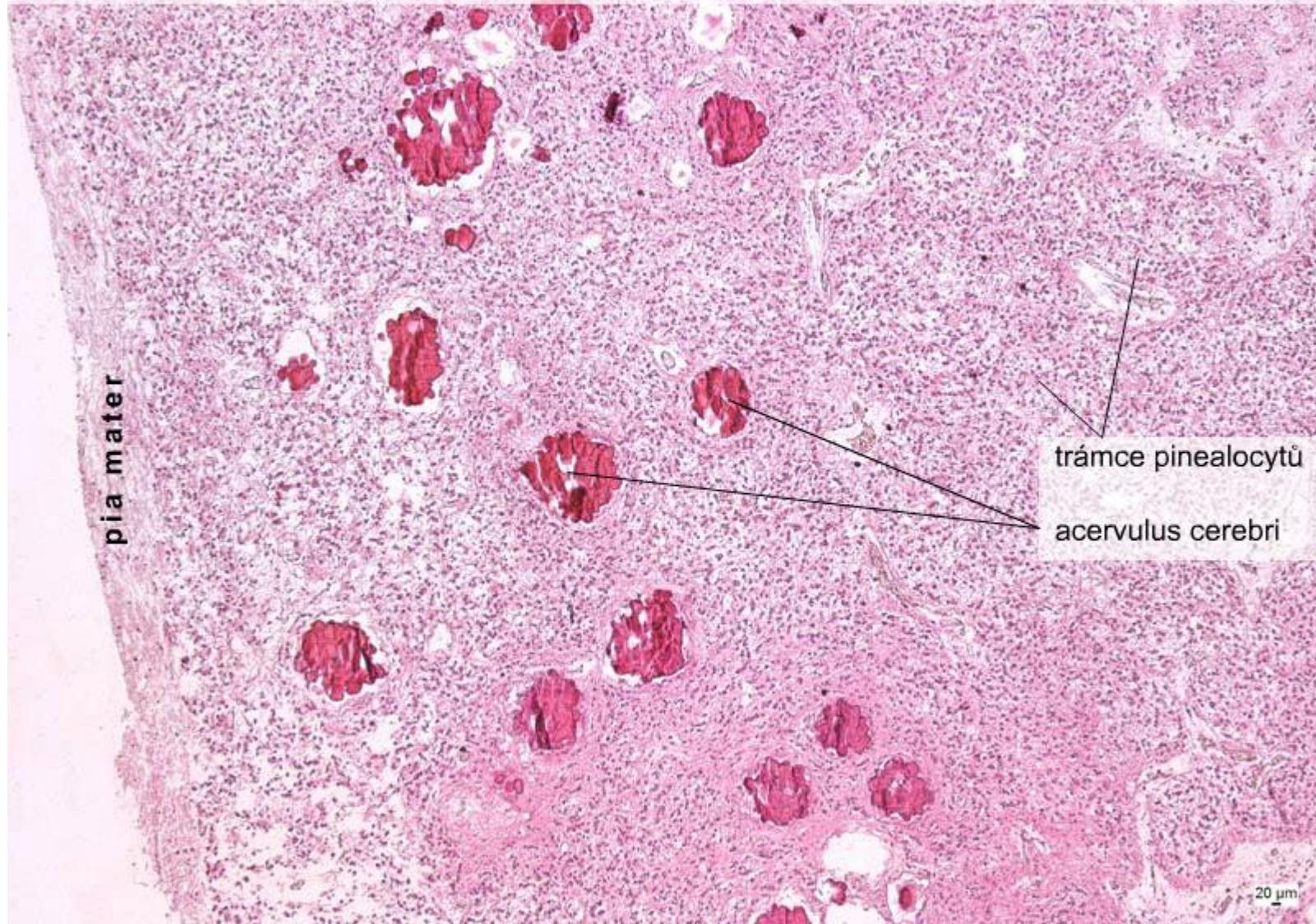
# Epiphysis (*c. pineale*)



- epithalamus
- c.t. capsule continuous to pia mater
- thin c.t. septa
- nonmyelinated nerve fibers
- **pinealocytes** (95%, large, pale, round nuclei)
- interstitial neuroglia (astrocytes, dark, elongated nuclei)
- *acervulus cerebri*
- melatonin

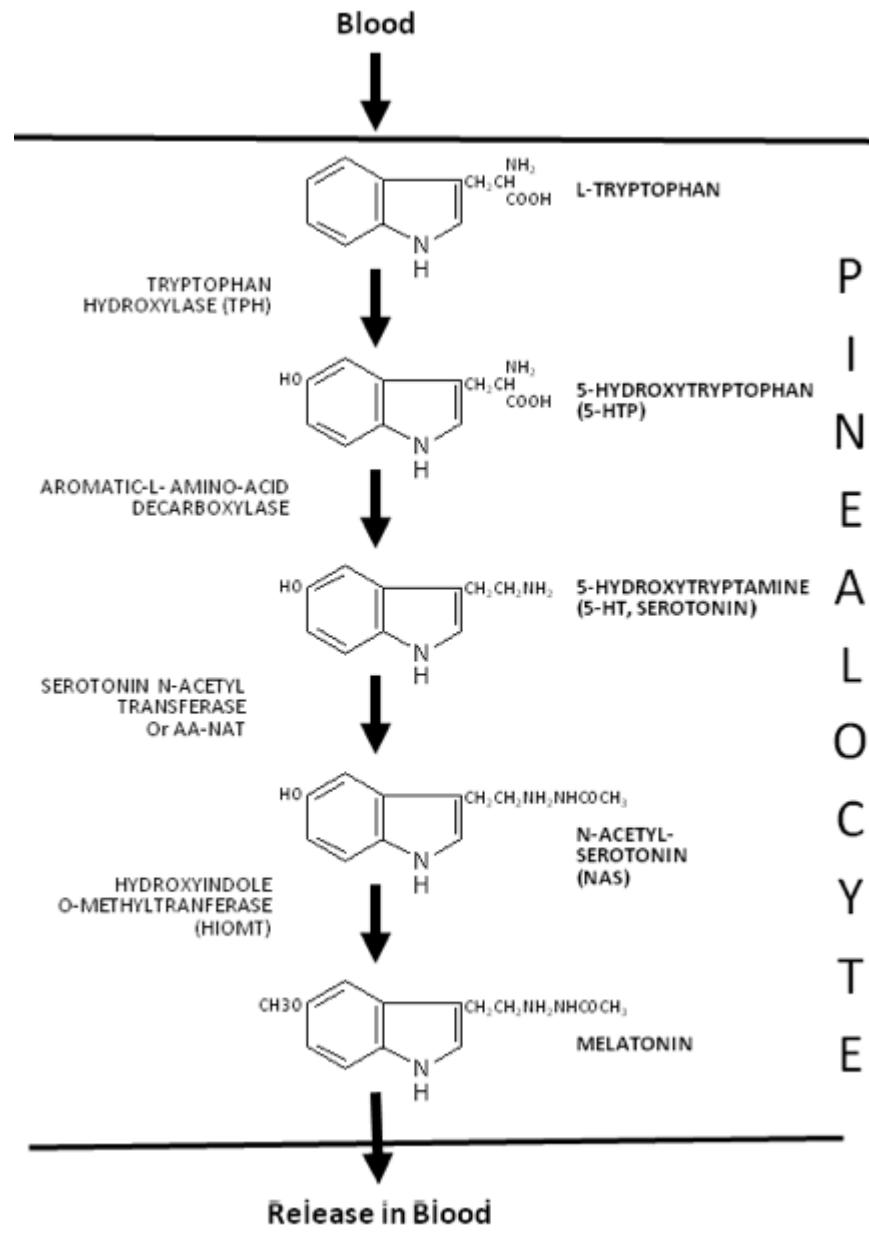
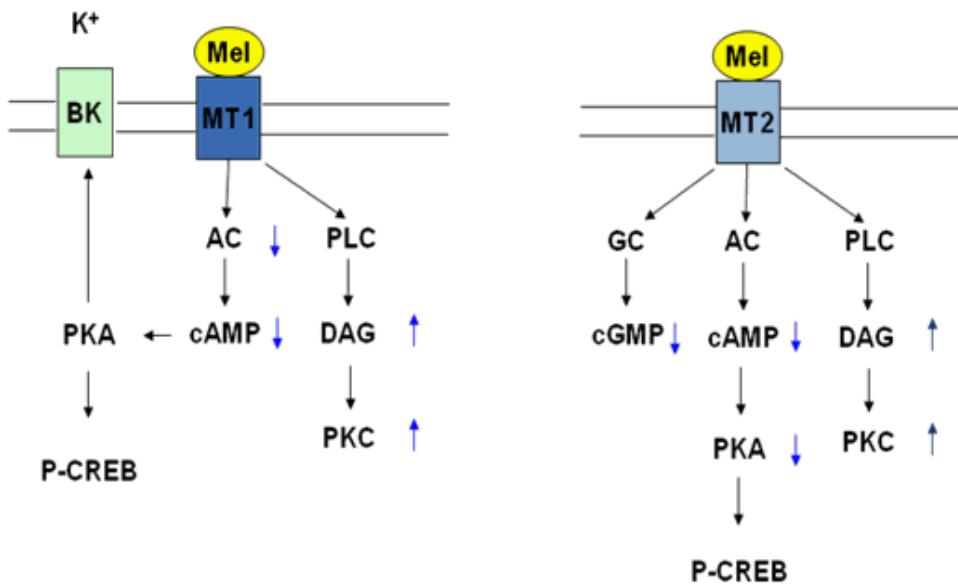


Epiphysis, (HE), objektiv 5×



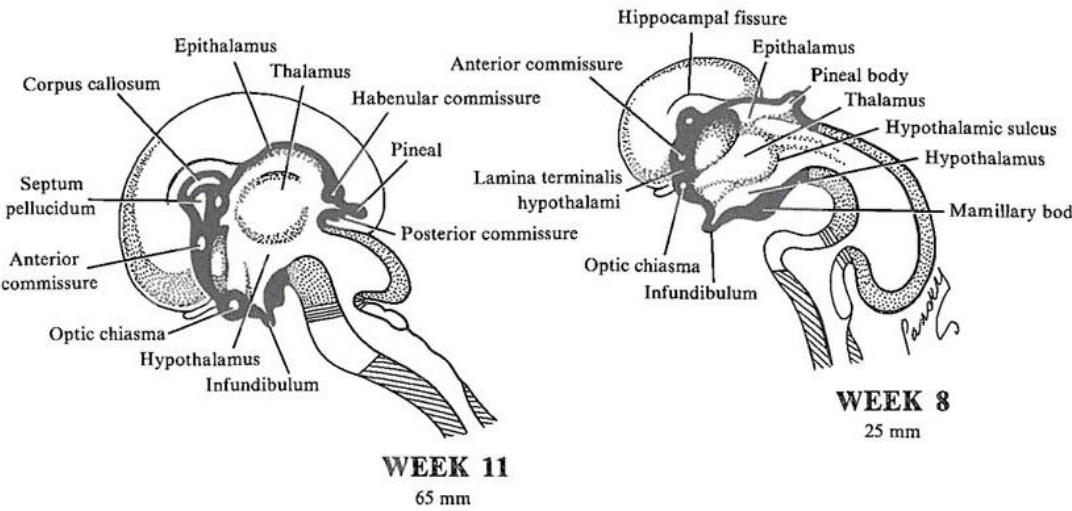
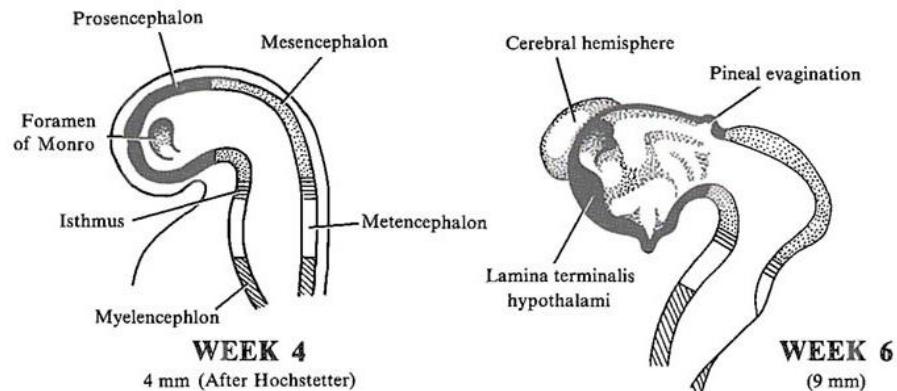
# Epiphysis (*c. pineale*)

- pinealocytes
- star-like, modified neurons in trabecules
- association with fenestrated capillaries
- neurosecretory dilatations
- nonvisual photoreception



# Embryonic development of epiphysis (*c. pineale*)

- thickening of caudal part of ependyma that does not contribute to development of choroid plexus at the roof of diencephalon
- neuroectoderm



# Thyroid gland (*gl. thyroidea*)

- Follicular cells → thyroid hormones (T3, T4)
- C cells → calcitonin

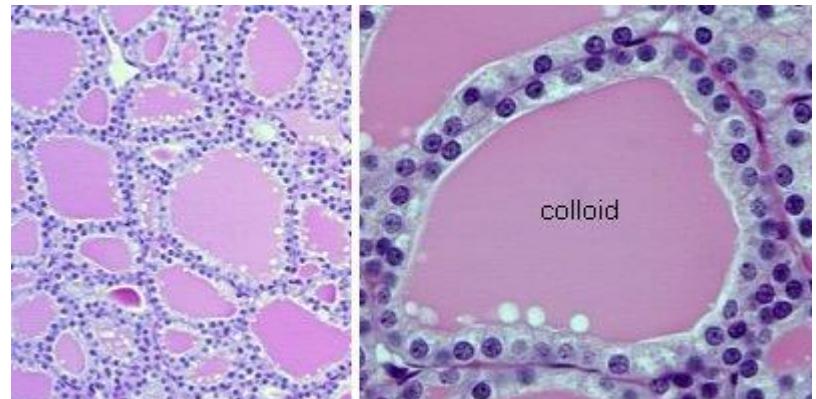
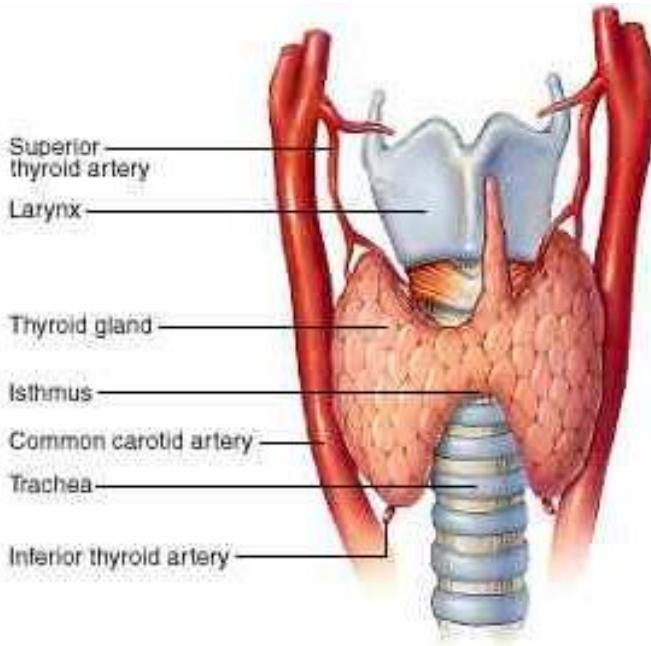
C.t. capsule, septa

Lobes → lobuli - follicles

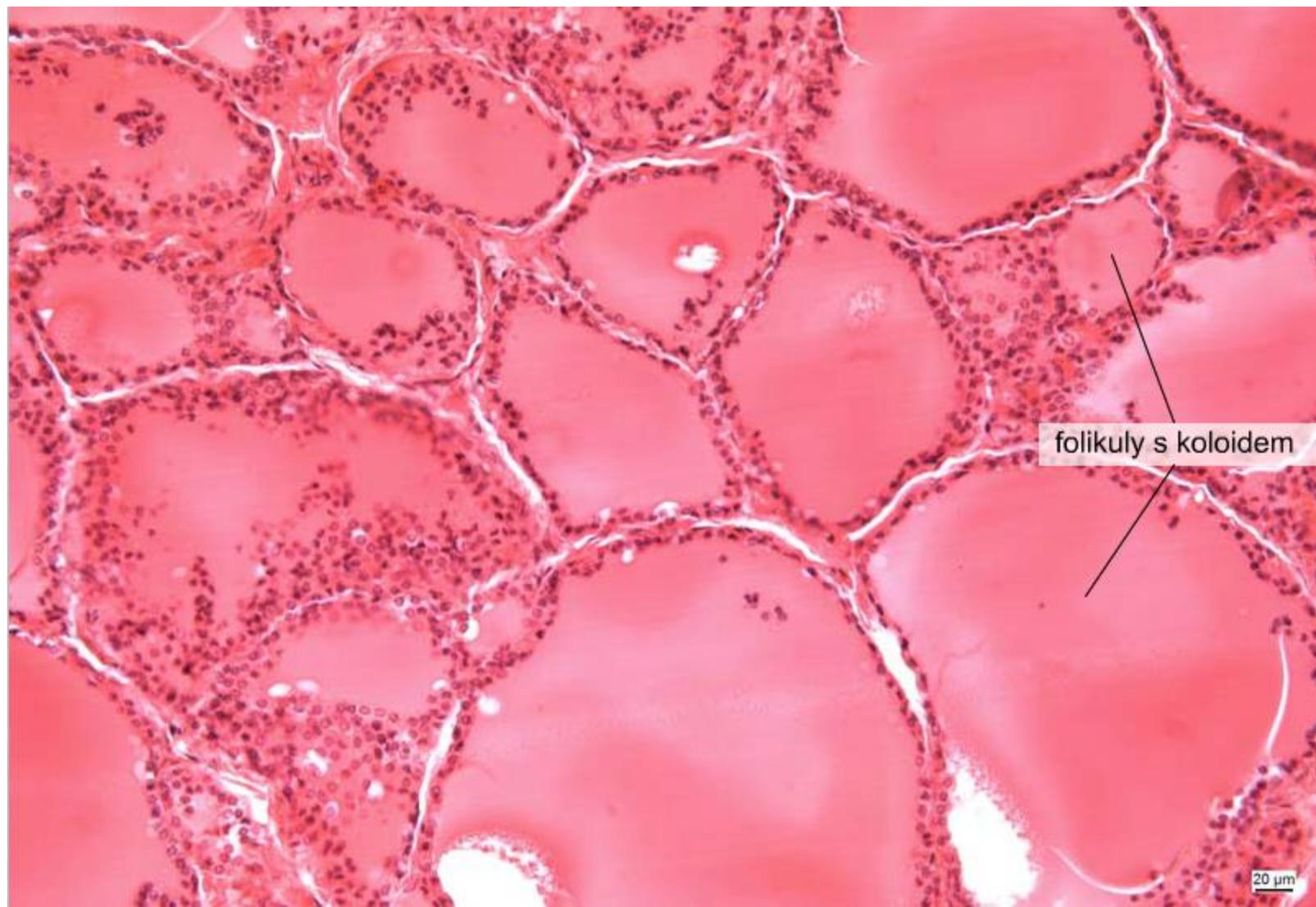
Follicles (50 µm -1 mm)

- separated by interstitial loose collagen c.t.
- simple epithelium (flat to cubic, according to secretory activity)
- colloid

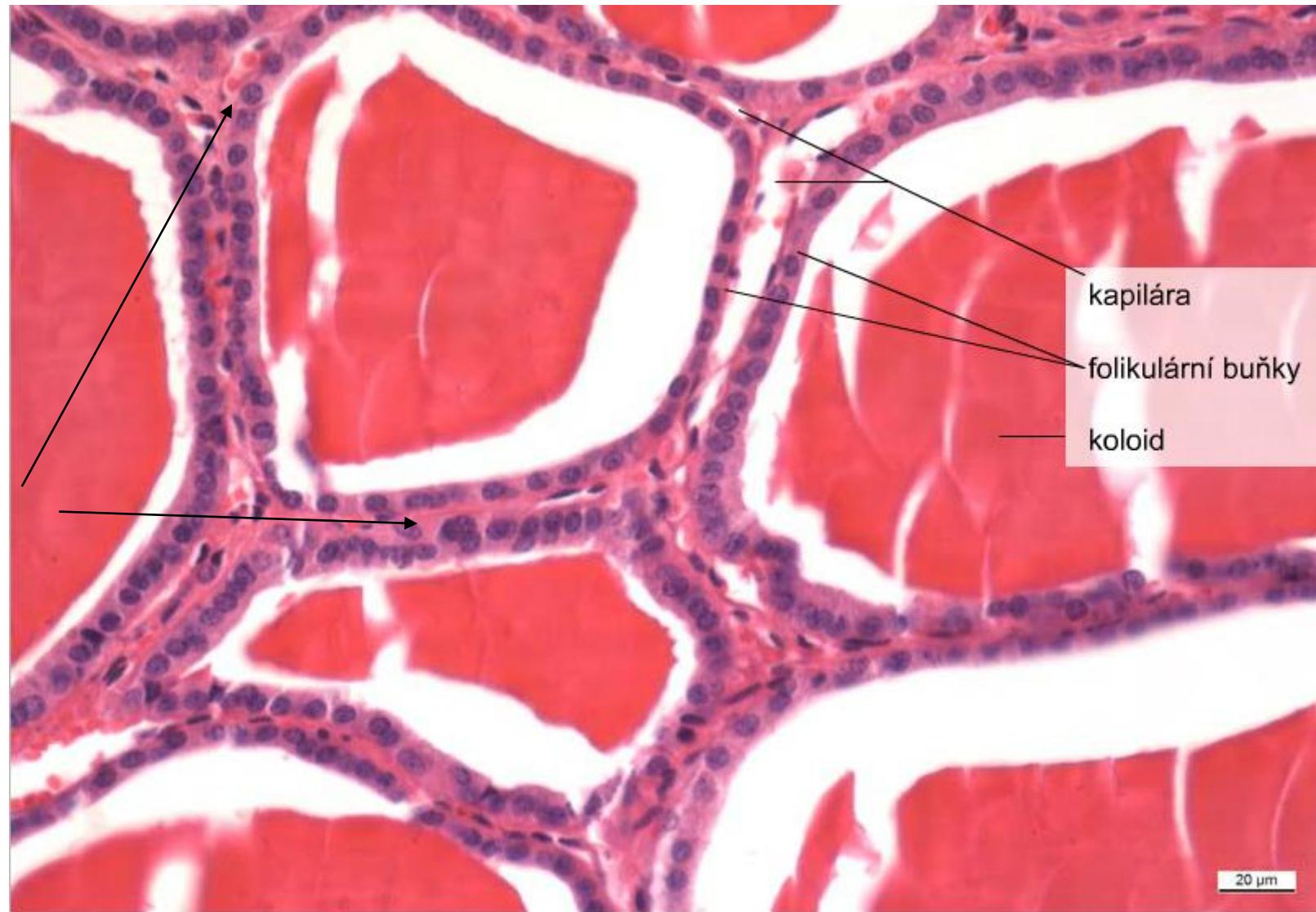
Capillary network from thyroid arteries



# Thyroid gland - follicles



# Thyroid gland - follicles



Follicular cells and C-cells (parafollicular)

# Synthesis of T3 and T4

## T4 synthesis in thyroid

- sodium-iodide symporter transports two Na<sup>+</sup> and one I<sup>-</sup> across the basement membrane.
- I<sup>-</sup> is moved across the apical membrane into the colloid of the follicle.
- thyroperoxidase oxidises 2 I<sup>-</sup> → I<sub>2</sub>.
- thyroperoxidase iodinates the tyrosyl residues of thyroglobulin
- (TSH) stimulates the endocytosis of the colloidal content
- endocytic vesicles + lysosomes, lysosomal enzymes cleave T<sub>4</sub> from the iodinated thyroglobulin
- exocytosis

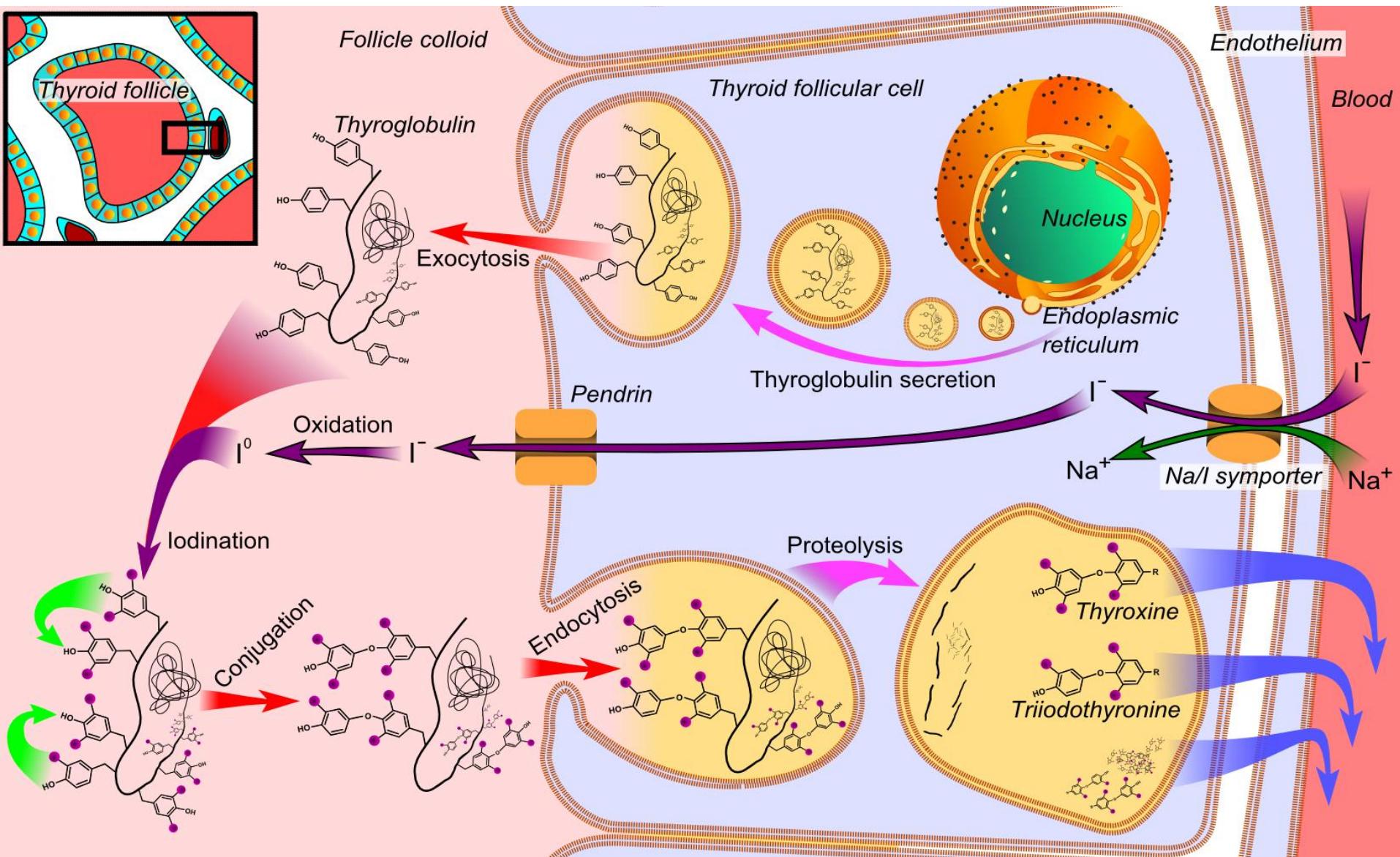
## T3 synthesis from T4

- T4 half-life in blood 6.5 days, T3 2.5 (T4 is a reservoir for T3)
- deiodination by tissue specific deiodinase enzymes generates T3

*thyreoglobulin*

*triiodothyronin T<sub>3</sub>*

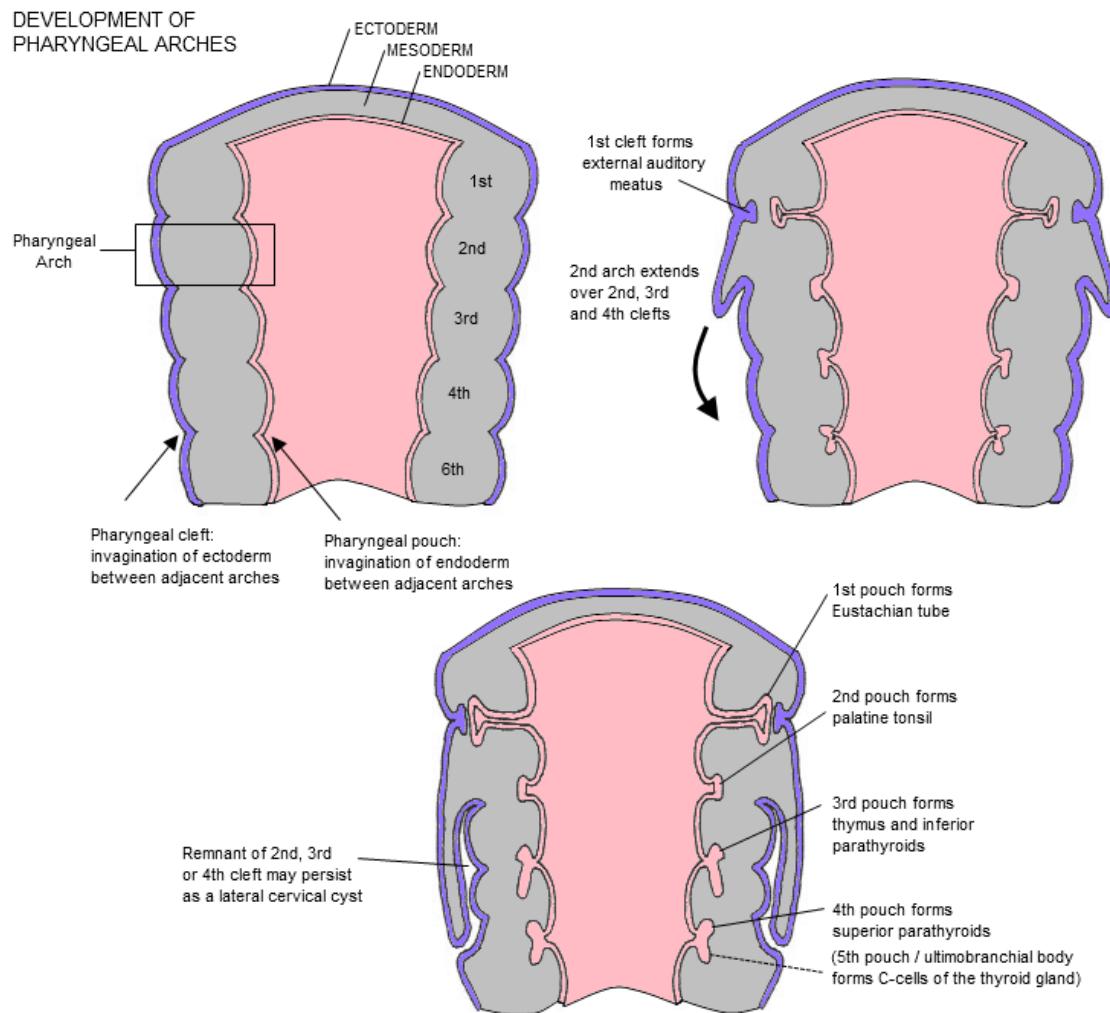
*tetraiodothyronin (thyroxin) T<sub>4</sub>*



# C-cells of thyroid

## Neuroendocrine cells

- pale staining
- epithelial basis, under basal lamina no contact with colloid
- derived from neural crest
- associate with ultimobranchial body, (derivative of the 4th pharyngeal pouch)

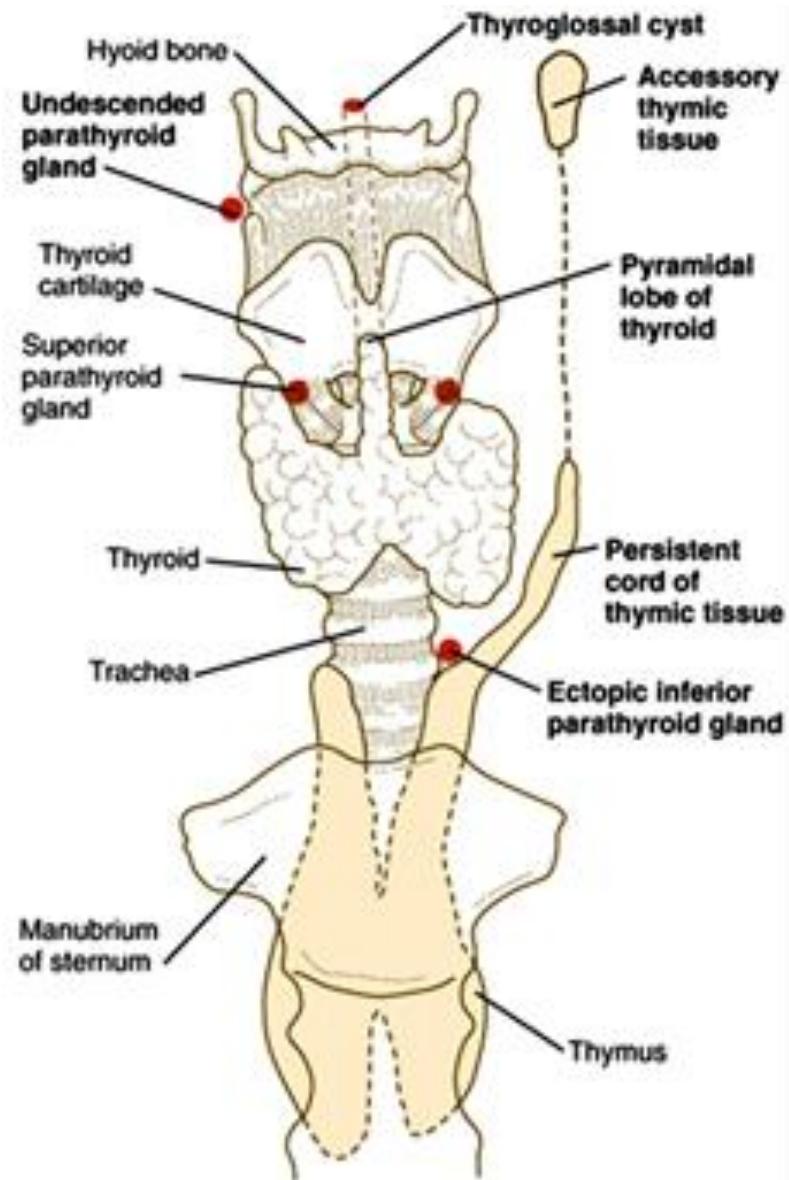
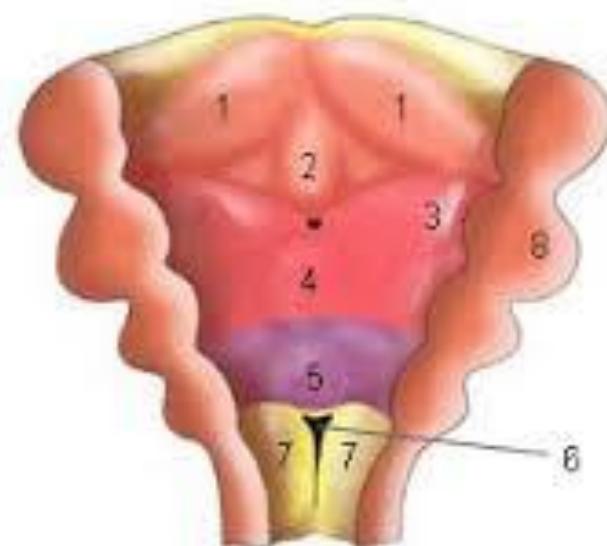


## Calcitonin

- inhibition of osteoclasts

# Thyroid development

- endodermal proliferation of pharyngeal floor
- hypobranchial eminence and foramen caecum
- bilobed civerticulum
- ductus thyroglossus

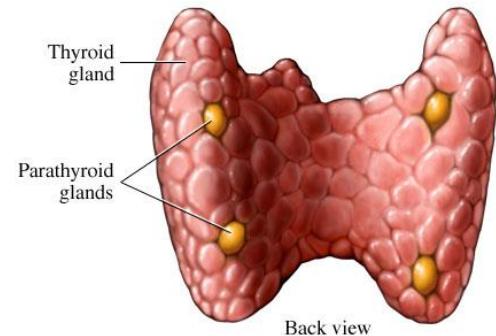


# Parathyroid gland (gl. parathyreoidea)

6 mm, 130 mg

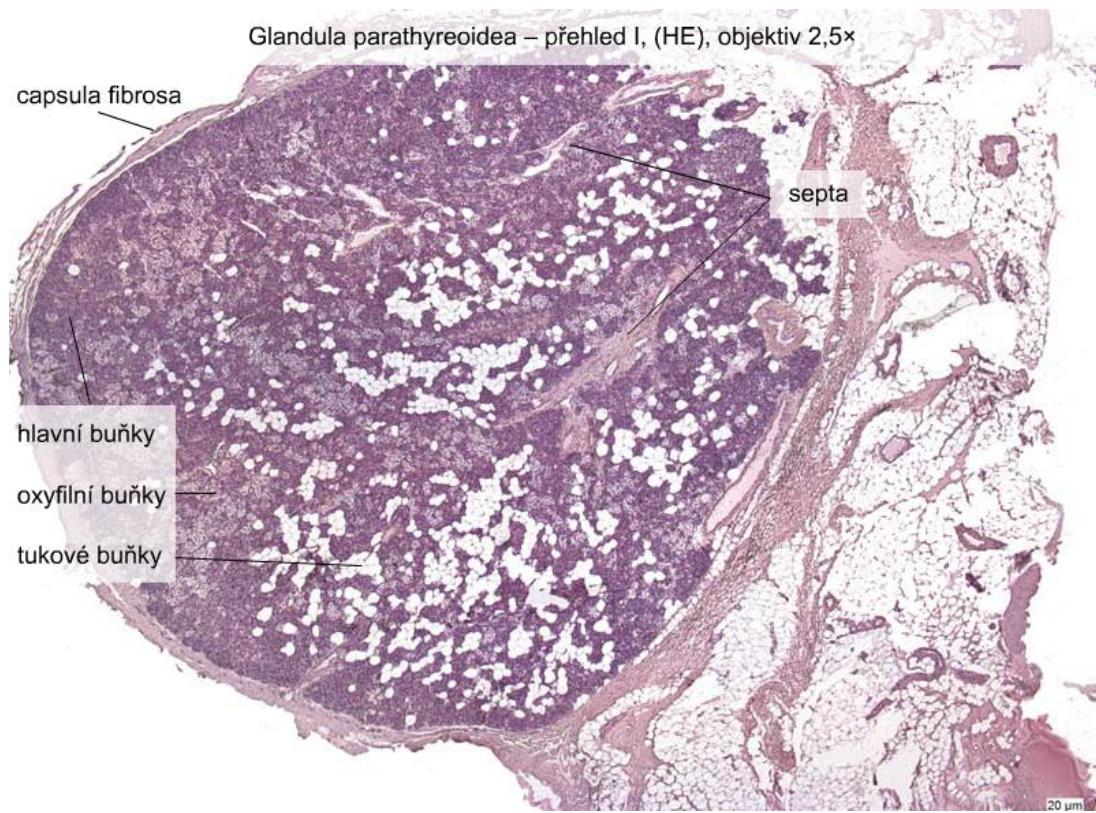
c.t. capsule and septa

Capillary network



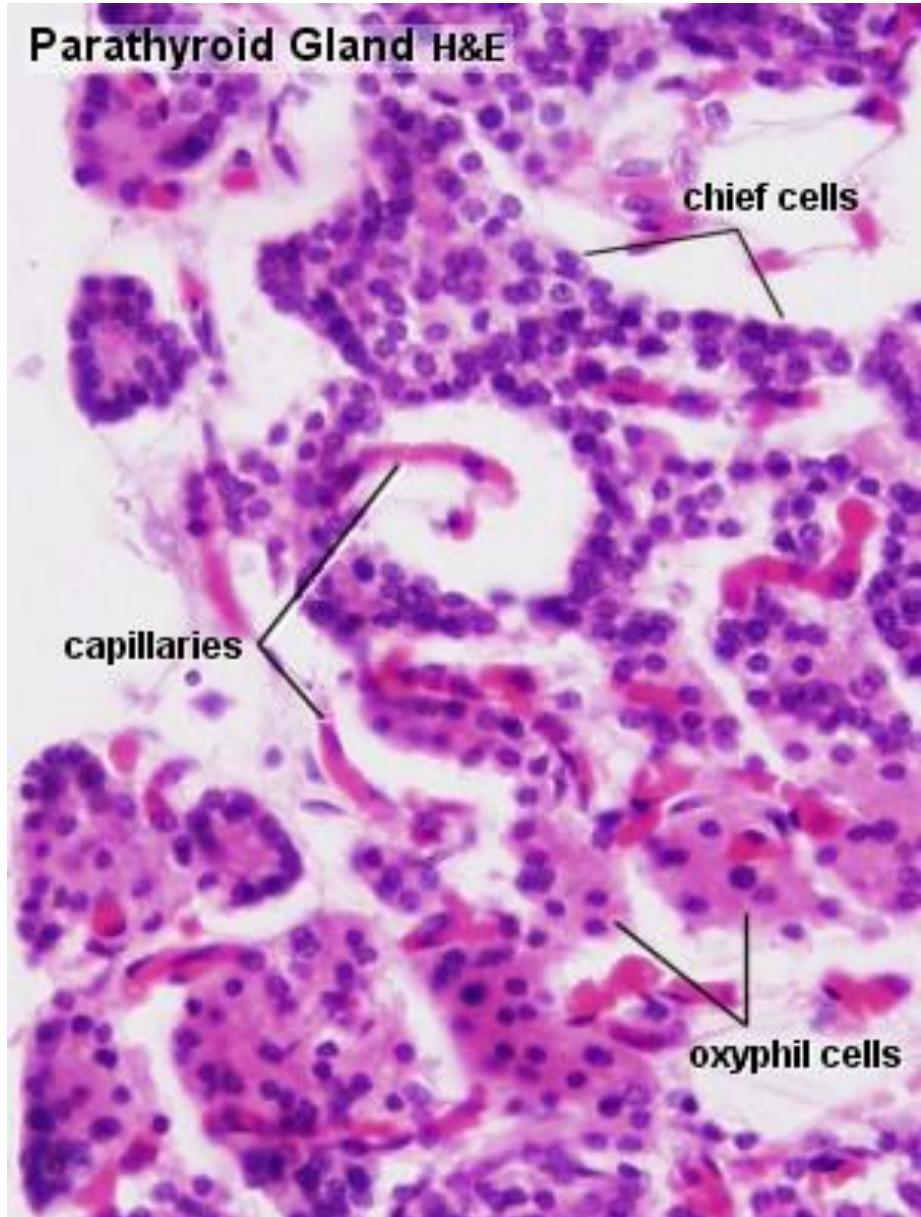
## Cords and clusters of glandular cells

- Chief
- Oxyphilic
- Adipose

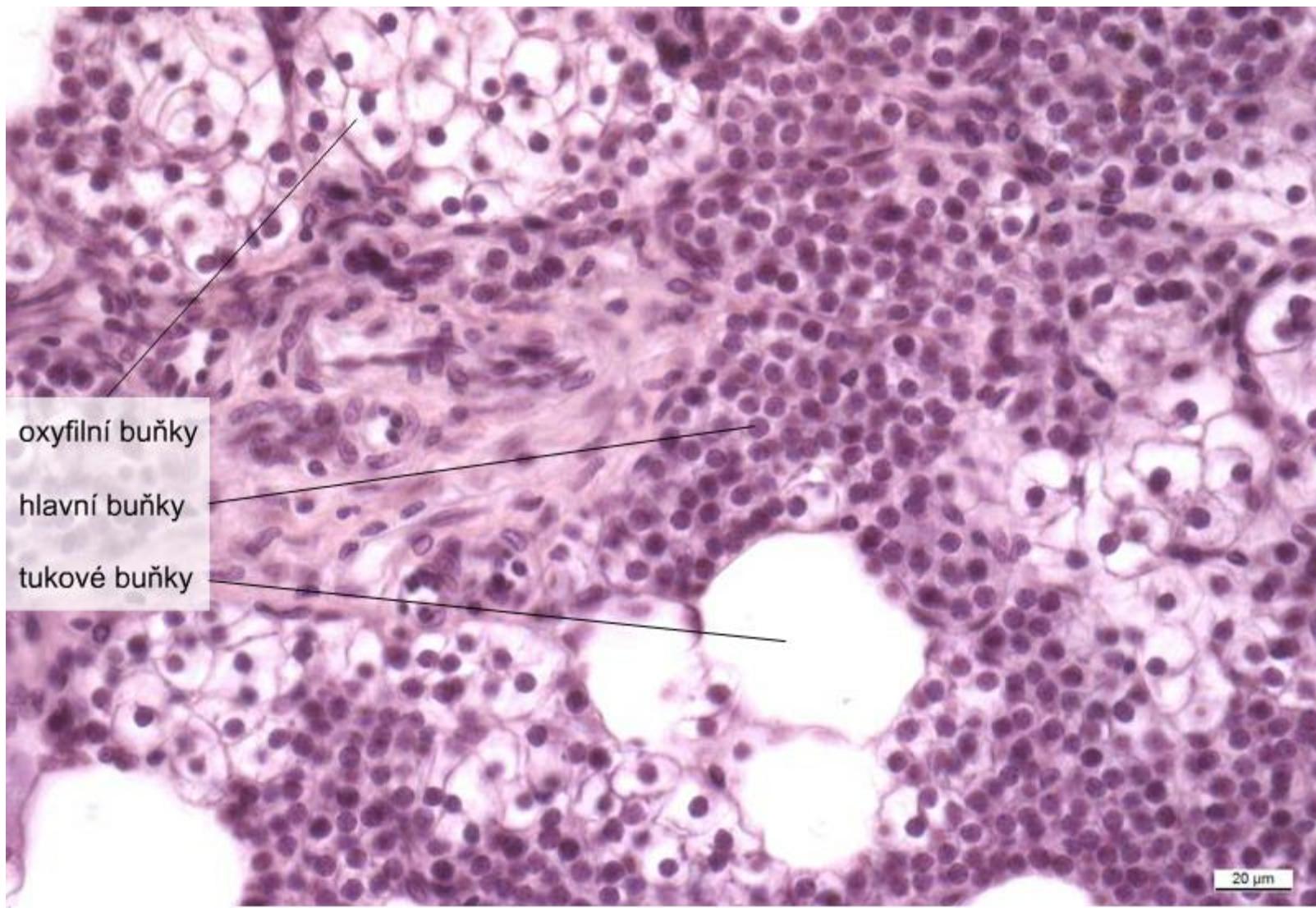


# Parathyroid gland (gl. parathyreoidea)

- **Chief**
  - most abundant
  - small cells (7-10µm, big nucleus)
  - mildly acidophilic
  - PTH – calcium metabolism
- **Oxyphylic**
  - large, polyhedral,
  - strongly acidophilic
  - round nucleus
  - glycogen

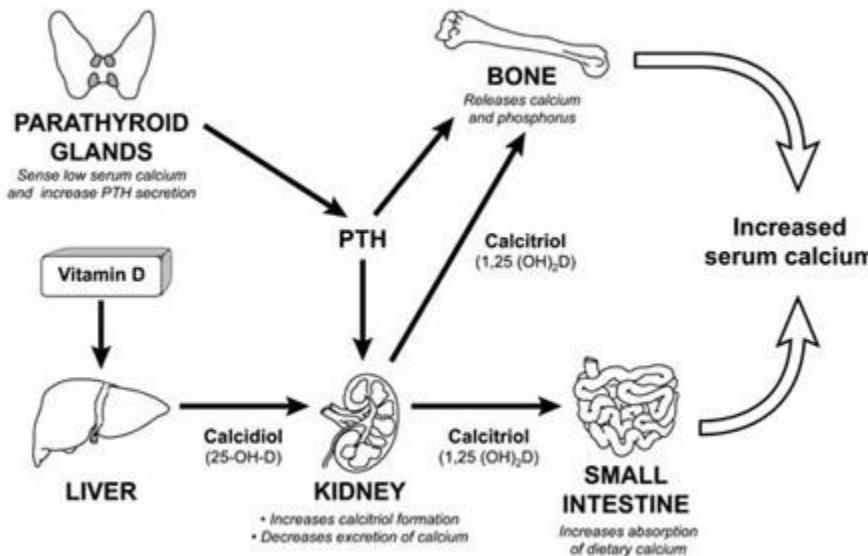
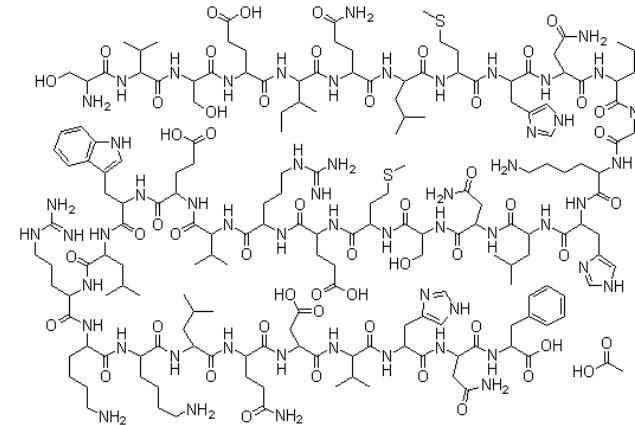


# Parathyroid gland (gl. parathyreoidea)

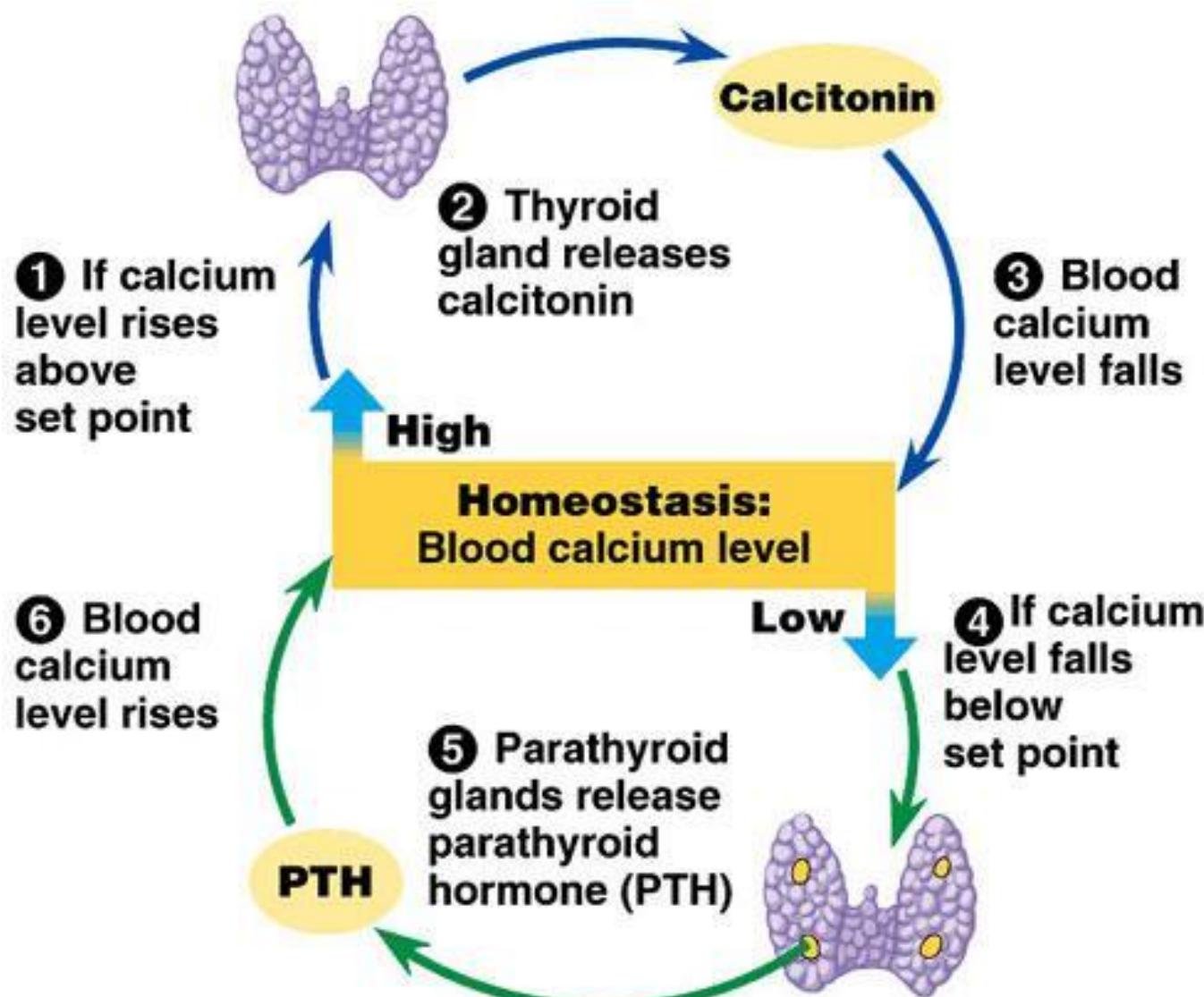


# Parathyroid hormone (PTH, parathormone, parathyrin)

- 84 aminoacids
- stimulates resorption by osteoclasts
- enhances resorption of calcium and magnesium in distal tubules and thick ascending limb
- enhances absorption in the intestine (via vD3)



# PTH vs. calcitonin

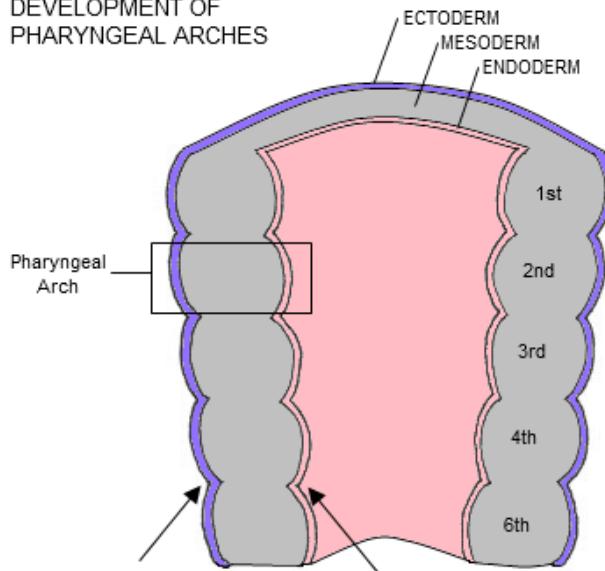


# Embryonic development of parathyroid gland

- glandulae parathyroideae superiores from endoderm of 4th pharyngeal pouch
- glandulae parathyroideae inferiores from dorsal process of 3th pharyngeal pouch
- together with thymus descend to lower poles of thyroid
- ectopic PTH gland in thymus or mediastinum

# Embryonic development of parathyroid gland

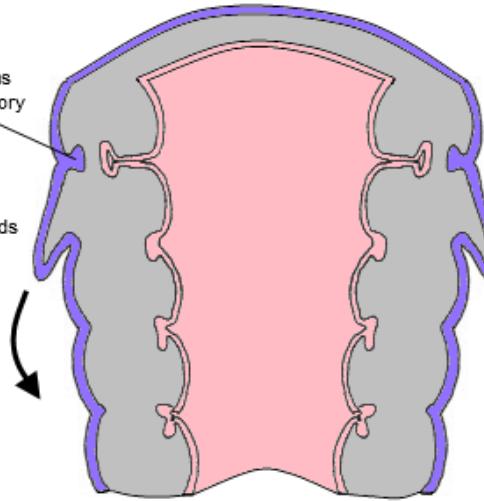
DEVELOPMENT OF PHARYNGEAL ARCHES



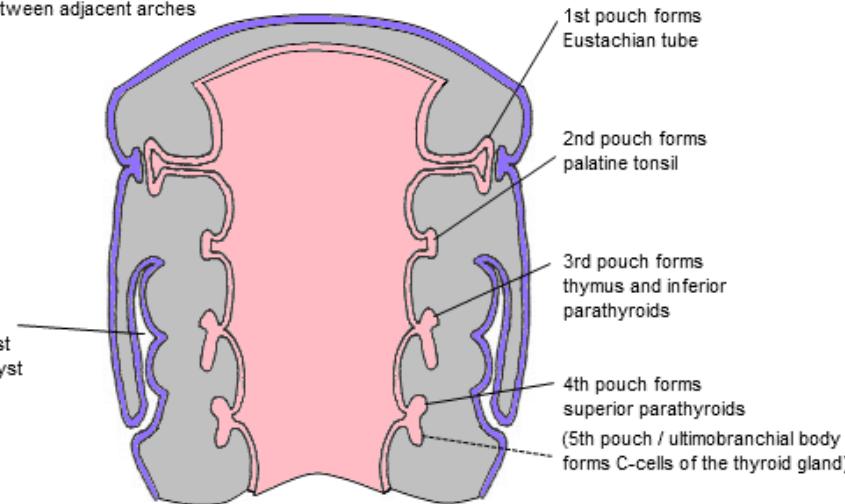
Pharyngeal cleft:  
invagination of ectoderm  
between adjacent arches

Pharyngeal pouch:  
invagination of endoderm  
between adjacent arches

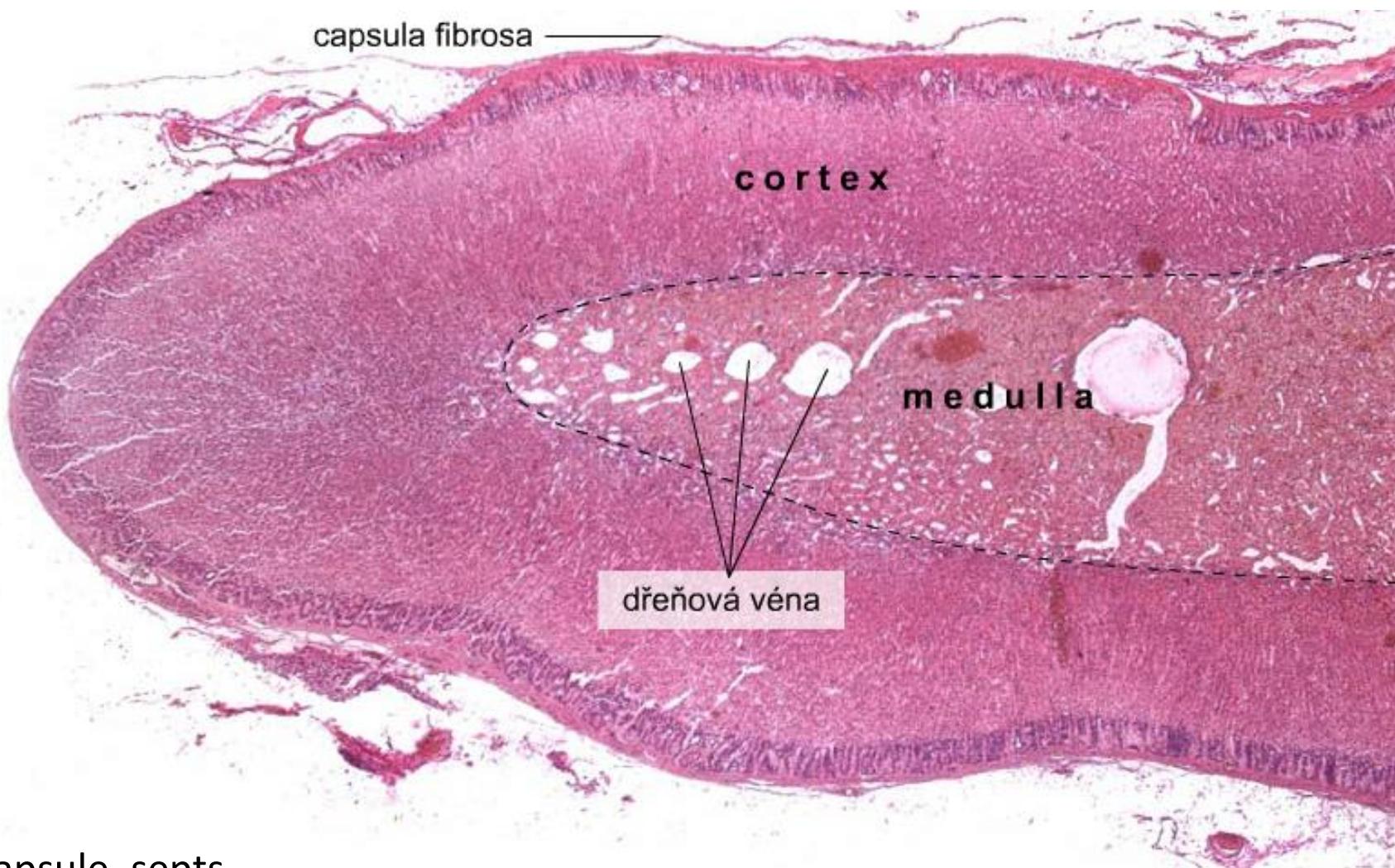
1st cleft forms  
external auditory  
meatus  
2nd arch extends  
over 2nd, 3rd  
and 4th clefts



Remnant of 2nd, 3rd  
or 4th cleft may persist  
as a lateral cervical cyst



# Adrenal gland (*corpus suprarenale*)



c.t. capsule, septa

capillary plexus

# Adrenal development

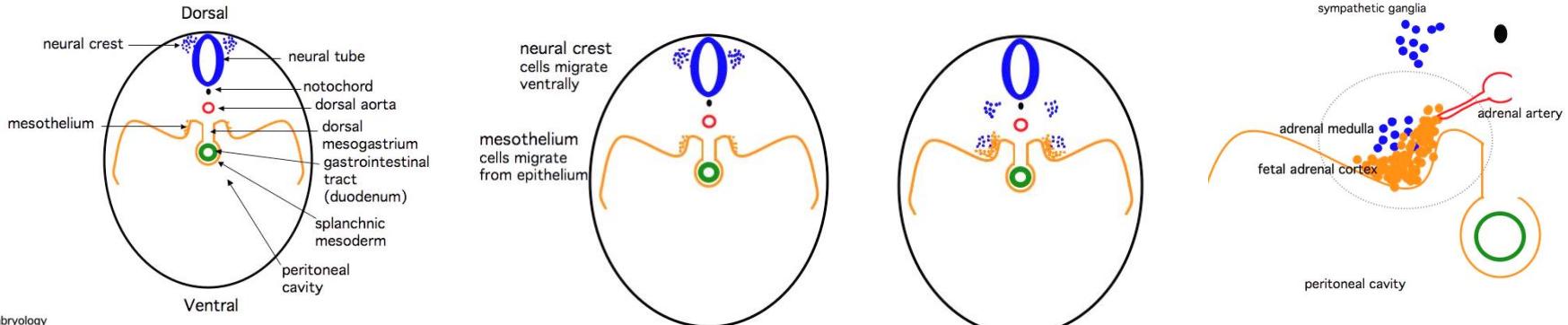
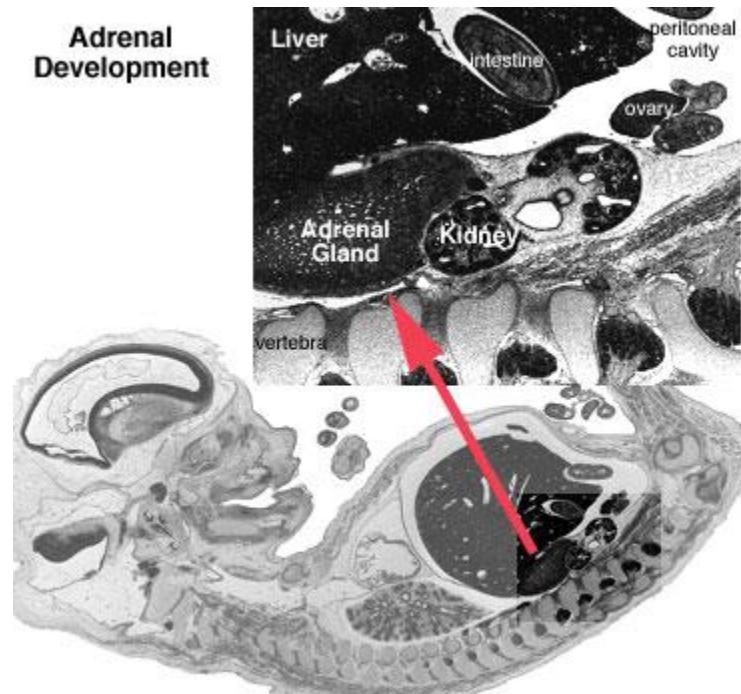
## cortex

- mesoderm
- mesothelium, **coelomic epithelium**

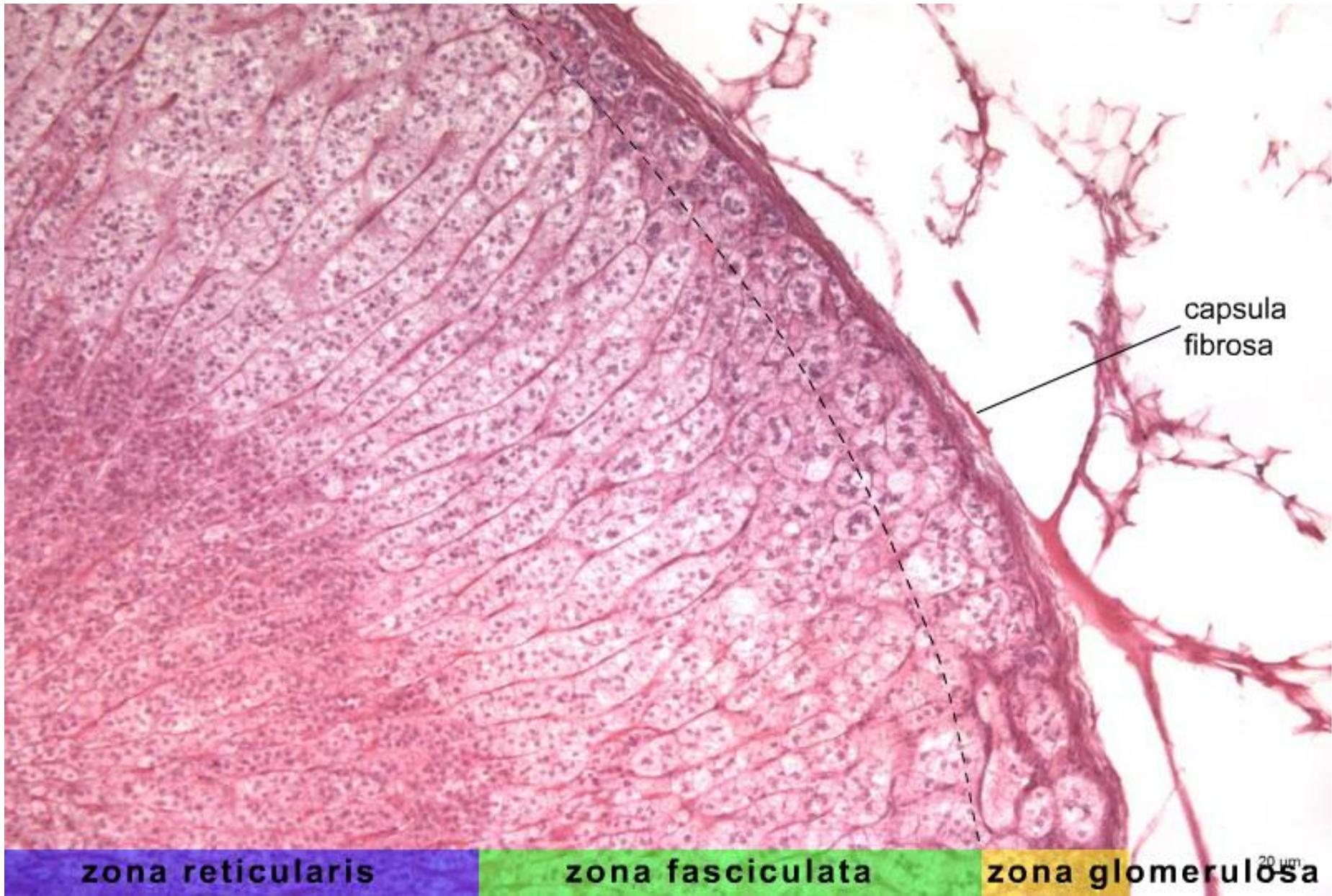
## medulla

- **neural crest**

Adrenal Development

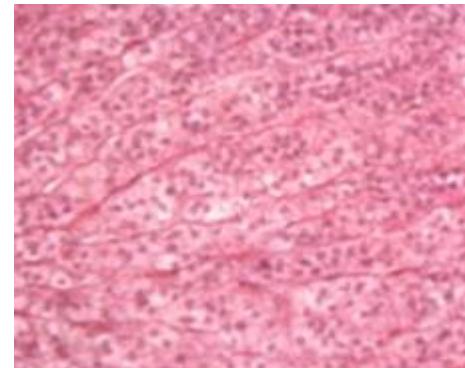
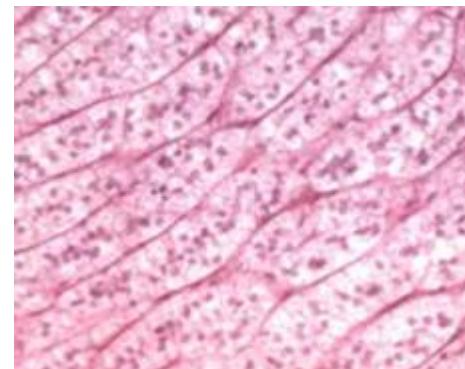
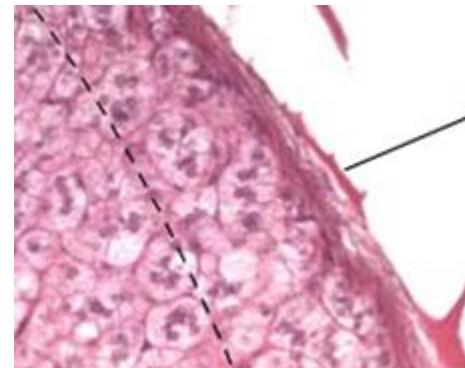


# Adrenal cortex



# Adrenal cortex

- **Zona glomerulosa (1/10)**
  - thin layer under capsule
  - relatively small cells in coiled glomeruli
  - not abundant lipid droplets
  - **mineralocorticoids**
- **Zona fasciculata (6/10)**
  - radially arranged trabecules
  - lipid droplets in cytoplasm
  - **glucocorticoids**
- **Zona reticularis (3/10)**
  - branched trabecules
  - small, acidophilic cells
  - lipofuscin
  - **androgen precursors**

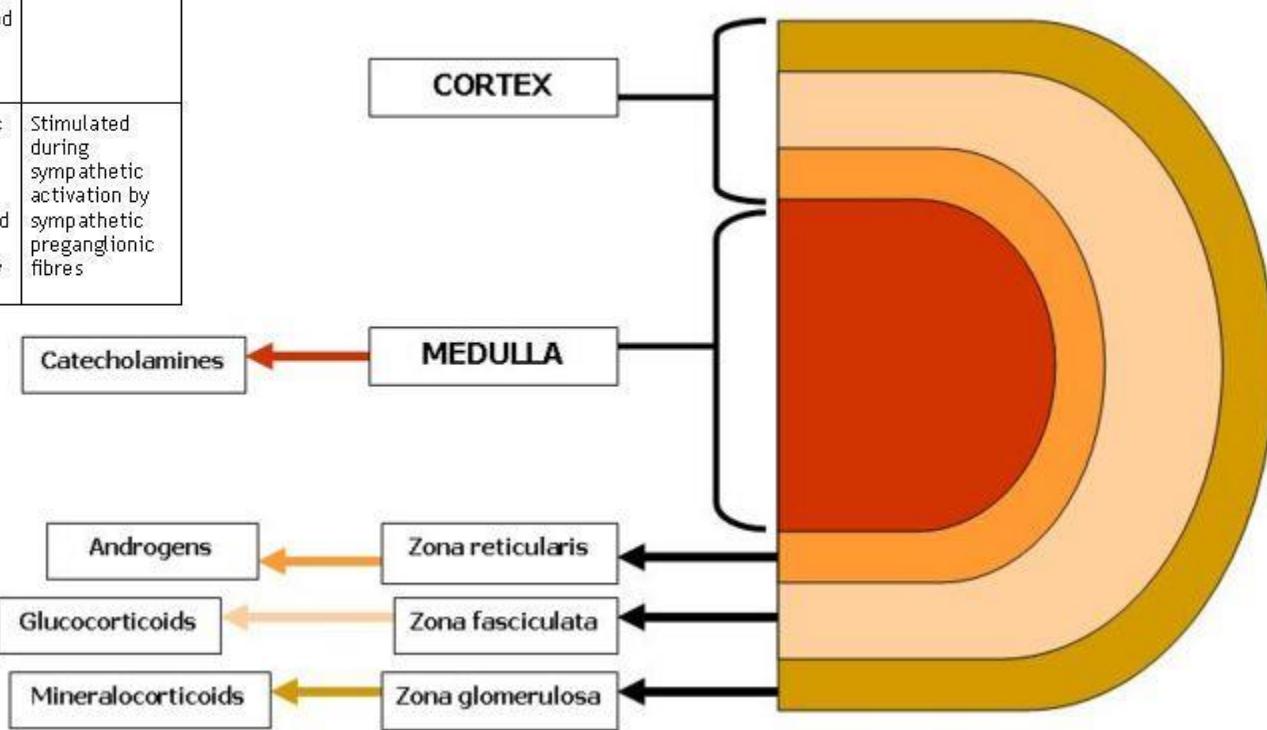


# Adrenal cortex hormones

- Steroids produced in cortex = **CORTICOSTEROIDS**
- Steroidogenic cells
  - SER, lipid droplets, mitochondria
  - *mineralocorticoids*
  - *glucocorticoids*
- **Aldosteron** – *zona glomerulosa*
- **Cortisol** – *zona fasciculata*
- **Andogens**, estrogens, progesteron – *zona reticularis*

# Adrenal cortex hormones

Region/ Zone	Hormone(s)	Primary Targets	Hormonal Effects	Regulatory Control
Cortex				
Zona glomerulosa	Mineralocorticoids (primarily aldosterone)	Kidneys	Increase renal reabsorption of Na <sup>+</sup> and water (especially in the presence of ADH and accelerate urinary loss of K <sup>+</sup> )	Stimulated by antidiuretic hormone II, elevated plasma K <sup>+</sup> , or a fall in plasma Na <sup>+</sup> ; inhibited by ANP and BNP
Zona fasciculata	Glucocorticoids [cortisol (hydrocortisone), corticosterone]	Most cells	Release amino acids from skeletal muscles and lipids from adipose tissues; promote peripheral utilization of lipids; anti-inflammatory effects	Stimulated by ACTH from anterior lobe of pituitary gland
Zona reticularis	Androgens	Most cells	Not important in adult men; encourages bone growth, muscle growth, and blood formation in children and women	Stimulated by ACTH
Medulla	Epinephrine, norepinephrine	Most cells	Increases cardiac activity, blood pressure, glycogen breakdown, blood glucose levels; releases lipids by adipose tissue	Stimulated during sympathetic activation by sympathetic preganglionic fibres

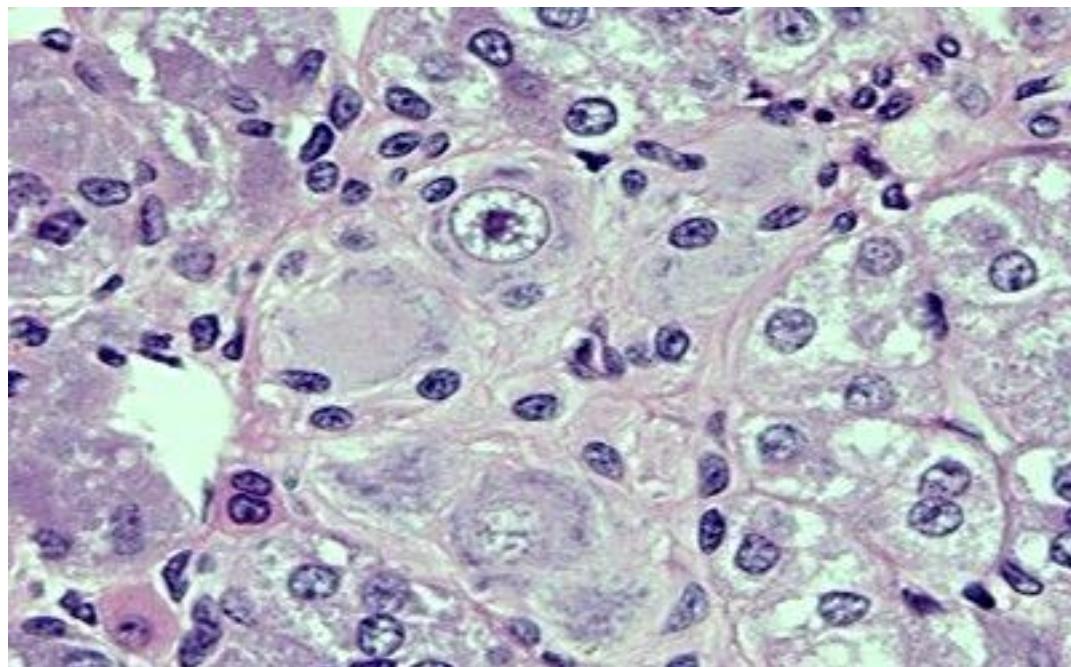


# Adrenal medulla

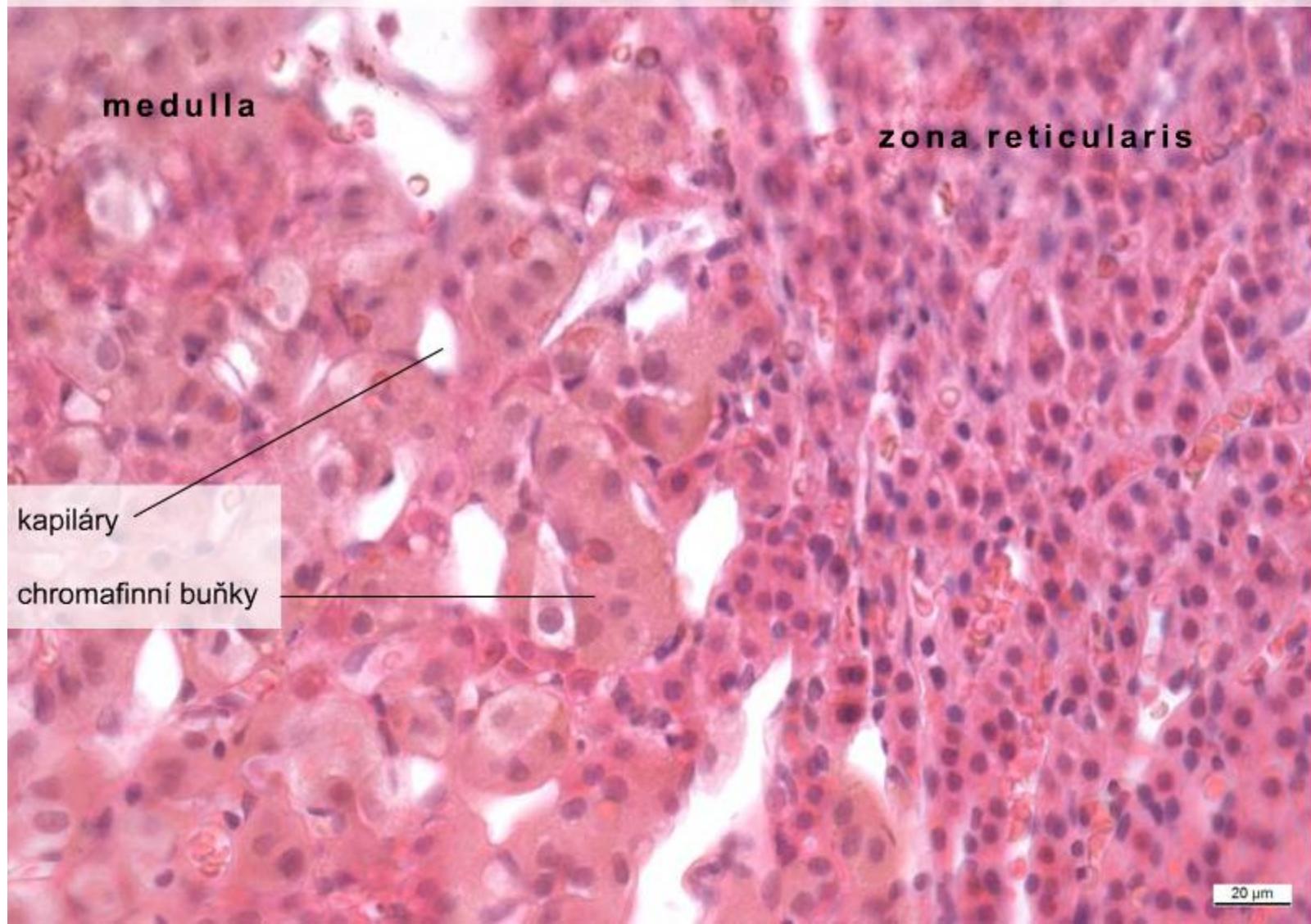
Clusters of glandular cells in reticular c.t.

- chromaffin cells – modified postganglionic neurons
- ganglionic cells
- capillaries, venules, nerve fibers
- **adrenaline and noradrenaline**

**Neural crest origin**



Corpus suprarenale – medulla, (HE), objektiv 40x



**STRESS**

Hypothalamus

CNS

(sympathetic)

Pituitary gland

ACTH

Adrenal cortex

Cortisol

- glycogen lysis
- stabilization of glucose levels
- suppression of immune system

Chronic stress

Fight or Flight

20 µm

Adrenaline

- blood pressure,  
vasoconstriction, heart rate...

# **Thank you for attention**

Questions and comments:  
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